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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Kern County District Attorney Cynthia J. Zimmer announced a verdict in a significant case today. On August 27, 2019, a Kern County jury found Marquis Candler guilty of one count of First-Degree Murder, along with additional charges of attempted murder and illegal possession of a firearm.

On April 8th, 2019, the defendant, Marquis Candler, was a houseguest at an apartment in Central Bakersfield where two others, including the decedent, Jamore Holliday, and a female occupant, lived. When the occupants of the apartment learned that Candler had brought a firearm into the apartment without permission, they told him to leave. When Jamore Holliday asked Candler to leave the apartment, Candler became confrontational with Jamore Holliday and swore at him. Candler then went to his bedroom, retrieved a .357 magnum revolver and shot at the female occupant, attempting to hit her in the head. Candler missed his first shot, but fired a second time, hitting her on the back of the arm as she ran out of the apartment. After wounding the female occupant, Candler proceeded downstairs, where he fired one shot directly into the chest of Jamore Holliday. Candler then stood over Holliday and attempted to shoot him a second time while Holliday was on the ground, but missed. Holliday was able to flee the apartment, but died from his wounds after collapsing in a nearby alley.

Candler then fled the scene and went to a relative's home in the Oildale area. There, Candler was overhead speaking about the murder he had just committed, stating "I shot 'em, I shot 'em, I killed 'em."

Investigators from the Bakersfield Police Department were able to collect DNA from the revolver found at the murder scene, and the Kern Regional Crime Lab identified Candler's DNA on the revolver used to commit the murder.

Notified of the verdict, District Attorney Cynthia Zimmer commented that "This case was prosecuted to jury trial verdict less than five months from when the crime was committed, an unusually short timeline for a homicide case. This successful prosecution is a testament to the prosecutors, investigators, and crime lab analysts who always stand ready to combat violent crime."

Candler's sentencing is set for September 25, 2019, where he faces a sentence of more than 80 years-to-life. The case was prosecuted by Deputy District Attorney Bradley King in Kern County Superior Court case BF 176270 A.

Marquis Candler:

