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New York State Appellate Court Upholds Conviction of Raysomon Jackson For 2009 Murder



ALBANY, NY – District Attorney P. David Soares today announced that the New York State Supreme Court Appellate Division, Third Judicial Department upheld the Felony Murder conviction of RAYSOMON JACKSON, formerly of Albany, for a 2009 murder. The full decision can be found [here](#).

On January 15, 2010, JACKSON was found guilty after a jury trial of (1) Count of Murder in the Second Degree, a Class “A-1” Felony and (1) Count of Criminal Possession of a Weapon in the Second Degree, a Class “C” Armed, Violent Felony before the Honorable Thomas Breslin.

On March 25, 2010 RAYSOMON JACKSON was sentenced to 25 years to life in State Prison.

JACKSON was found guilty of murdering Ruel Torak, 22, of Schenectady on the night of January 29, 2009 at approximately 12:47 AM in the area of 50A Lark Street in Albany. JACKSON shot Torak in the forehead inside JACKSON’s vehicle during a marijuana transaction. JACKSON then torched the vehicle and dumped Torak inside an abandoned building at 810 Broadway Avenue in the City of Albany. Torak’s body was found by an architect on February 21, 2009.



This investigation was a collaborative effort with the Detectives from the Albany Police Department. Diligent investigative work led to the discovery of the burned and crushed vehicle in a salvage lot. Despite the state of the vehicle, detectives were able to take the car apart piece by piece to search for evidence. As a result, forensic evidence from the vehicle linked both Torak and JACKSON to the crime scene and helped secure the conviction of JACKSON.

“The work of our office is not only to hold offenders accountable for their crimes and prosecute them in County Court, but also to protect those convictions in State Appellate Court. I applaud the work of ADA Sharp for winning the appeal, and ADA Calderon for securing the conviction,” commented DA Soares.

Steven Sharp of the Legal Affairs Bureau argued the appeal before the New York State Supreme Court, Appellate Division, Third Department and Street Crimes Bureau Chief Francisco Calderon prosecuted the case.

For more information, please contact Cecilia Logue.

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