

# OFFICE OF THE COLE COUNTY PROSECUTING ATTORNEY

MARK A. RICHARDSON, PROSECUTOR

## NEWS RELEASE



Cole County Courthouse Annex | 311 East High Street, Third Floor | Jefferson City, Missouri 65101  
Tel. (573) 634.9180 | Fax (573) 634.7797 | Web [www.colecopa.com](http://www.colecopa.com)

### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

January 11, 2011

### CONTACT

Herb Heinen, (573) 634-9180

## **Jury convicts Harris of all four counts from October 13, 2009, robbery and assault at Capitol Avenue law office**

JEFFERSON CITY, Missouri (January 11, 2011) – A Cole County jury of five men and seven women deliberated for approximately one hour and 15 minutes this afternoon before finding Patrick Harris, also known as Patrick Evans, guilty of assault in the first degree, robbery in the first degree, armed criminal action, and unlawful possession of a firearm, after a two-day trial.

Harris was previously indicted on all four felony charges by the Cole County Grand Jury. The charges stemmed from an October 13, 2009, incident at a law office located at 611 East Capitol Avenue in Jefferson City. That evening, Harris approached a group of seven individuals gathered outside of the office, brandished a handgun, and ordered all of them inside, at which point he made them lay on the floor and demanded that one of the individuals collect the possessions of the others. During that time, one of the victims, who was licensed to carry a concealed weapon, confronted Harris with a handgun so as to defend himself, and Harris shot him.

“The quick-thinking victim who shot Harris probably saved the life of his friends who were with him that night,” said Prosecuting Attorney Mark Richardson, who tried the case. “I am happy that we were able to bring justice to those victims, all of whom are upstanding members of our community. Also, the Jefferson City Police Department should be commended for the hard work in the case and taking Harris into custody quickly.”

Sentencing will take place at a later date. Harris will remain in custody.