

OFFICE OF THE COLE COUNTY PROSECUTING ATTORNEY

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NEWS RELEASE



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Jury convicts Boyce on all counts for October 6, 2011, robbery and assault on Lafayette Street

JEFFERSON CITY, MISSOURI (July 31, 2012) – A Cole County jury of six men and six women deliberated for less than 90 minutes this afternoon before finding Demetrius Leron Boyce, 26, guilty of robbery in the first degree (class A felony), assault in the first degree (class B felony), and armed criminal action (unclassified felony), following a two-day trial before Judge Daniel R. Green.

The evidence established that Boyce knocked on the door of the victim's home in the 500 block of Lafayette Street around 3 a.m. October 6, 2011, told the victim he was in a car crash nearby, and asked to use his phone. The victim offered a Boyce a ride back to his car, during which time Boyce brandished a revolver, pointed it at the victim's head, and demanded money. The victim drove the car back to the 500 block of Lafayette Street, jumped out of it while the engine was still running, and ran towards his house. While the victim was fleeing, Boyce fired a shot from the revolver, the bullet of which grazed the victim's left leg.

"I am happy that the jury smartly considered the testimony of the victim, along with all of the evidence that corroborated that testimony, and concluded that the defendant was guilty as charged, beyond a reasonable doubt," said Cole County Assistant Prosecuting Attorney Jonathan Bertz, who tried the case for the State. "Their verdict sends a strong message that this type of street crime in our community will not be tolerated.

"Additionally, I wish to the Jefferson City Police Department, particularly Det. Jason Miles, for all of their hard work in the investigation of this case."

Sentencing will be at a later date. Boyce will remain in custody. He could face up to life in prison for the robbery and armed criminal action offenses.