

## COUNTY OF FRESNO

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## NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE July 11, 2022

## Thyshawn Thompson and Leonard Luster Sentenced for 1<sup>st</sup> Degree Murder and Attempted Murder

Today, July 11, 2022, Thyshawn Thompson (26, of Fresno) and Leonard Luster (25, of Fresno) were sentenced for the 2020 murder of Demarko White and attempted murder of Arthur Thomas. Thompson was sentenced to 10 years determinant term plus 100 to life. Luster was sentenced to 10 years determinant term plus 50 to life. Thompson and Luster's sentence was handed down after they were both found guilty of (1) Count of 1st Degree Murder and (1) Count of Attempted Murder. Thompson was also held for the personal use of a firearm enhancement. These convictions occurred following a jury trial that concluded on March 16, 2022, in the Fresno Superior Court. At the time of the offense, both Thompson and Luster had a prior strike on their records.

Evidence presented at trial showed that on September 16, 2020, Luster drove a vehicle picking up Thompson near the Fresno County Superior Court during the Court lunch recess. The evidence showed that Luster drove Thompson to the area of Normal and McKinley near the Mayfair District where Thompson shot from the passenger side of a moving vehicle with a semi-automatic handgun while Luster drove. Thompson shot and struck Demarko White multiple times killing him. Thompson also shot and wounded Arthur Thomas. After the shooting, Thompson and Luster fled the scene in the vehicle and were both subsequently arrested following a traffic stop by the Fresno Police Department.

The Fresno County District Attorney's Office would like to thank Fresno Police Department Homicide Detectives Ryan Rockwell and Detective Ben Barnes for their hard work on the case.

This case was successfully prosecuted by Senior Deputy District Attorney David Olmos with our Homicide Unit. Mr. Olmos was assisted by District Attorney Senior Investigator Michelle Veneman from the Fresno County District Attorney's Bureau of Investigations.

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