



# JACKSON COUNTY STATE'S ATTORNEY

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **CORTEZ L. TURNER, MURPHYSBORO, INDICTED FOR FIRST DEGREE MURDER**

Michael C. Carr, Jackson County State's Attorney, announced today that a Grand Jury has returned a Superseding Indictment including Cortez L. Turner, age 28, of Murphysboro, Illinois, in the indictment previously charging Juwan K. Jackson in connection with a shooting that that occurred in Murphysboro during the early morning hours of October 24, 2016, resulting in the death of Detrick Rogers. The superseding indictment charges both Turner and Jackson with three counts of First Degree Murder, one count of Aggravated Discharge of a Firearm, and one count of Conspiracy to Commit Aggravated Discharge of a Firearm.

The charges of First Degree Murder allege that the defendants, while acting together and in concert with others, and being legally accountable for the actions of the others killed Detrick Rogers without lawful justification, with the intent to kill or do great bodily harm to Detrick Rogers or another, shot Detrick Rogers with a firearm, thereby causing his death. If convicted, the defendants could be sentenced from 20 to 60 years in the Department of Corrections. Probation is not authorized.

The charge of Aggravated Discharge of a Firearm, a Class 1 Felony, alleges that Juwan Jackson and Cortez Turner, while acting together and in concert with others, knowingly discharged a firearm in the direction of Detrick Rogers. A class one felony carries a sentence of from four (4) to fifteen (15) years in the Department of Corrections and is probationable.

The charge of Conspiracy to Commit Aggravated Discharge of a Firearm is a Class 2 Felony and carries a potential sentence of from two (2) to five (5) years in the Department of Corrections and also is probationable.

*An Indictment is merely a charge and not evidence. Under the law, a defendant is presumed to be innocent of a charge until proved guilty beyond a reasonable doubt to the satisfaction of a jury.*

The investigation is being pursued by the Murphysboro Police Department, the Jackson County Sheriff's Office, and the Illinois State Police. State's Attorney Michael C. Carr and Assistant State's Attorney Casey E.A. Bloodworth are handling the prosecution of these cases.

*A prosecutor has the responsibility of a minister of justice and not simply that of an advocate. This responsibility carries with it specific obligations to see that the defendant is accorded procedural justice and that guilt is decided upon the basis of sufficient evidence. Except for statements that are necessary to inform the public of the nature and extent of the prosecutor's action and that serve a legitimate law enforcement purpose, by Supreme Court Rule, the State's Attorney is not allowed to make statements about pending cases or investigations which would pose a serious and imminent threat to the fairness of the proceeding. **Rule 3.8 Special Responsibilities of a Prosecutor.** For a list of certain subjects which have been determined to pose such a threat to the fairness of the proceedings and for a list of subjects which do not, please see **Rule 3.6 Trial Publicity.** For any press release involving a case which has not yet been tried, please note that: **a defendant is presumed to be innocent of a charge until proved guilty beyond a reasonable doubt to the satisfaction of the jury.***