



# JACKSON COUNTY STATE'S ATTORNEY

**Michael C. Carr, State's Attorney**

Jackson County Courthouse • 1001 Walnut • Third Floor • Murphysboro, IL 62966  
(618) 687-7200 • FAX (618) 687-7215

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Michael C. Carr, State's Attorney

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**RAHSAAN D. GRAHAM, JR., CARBONDALE, IL, FOUND GUILTY  
OF AGGRAVATED DISCHARGE OF A FIREARM  
AND UNLAWFUL USE OF WEAPONS BY A FELON**

A Jackson County jury returned guilty verdicts on charges of Aggravated Discharge of a Firearm and Unlawful Use of Weapons by a Felon against Rahsann D. Graham, Jr., 21, of Carbondale, Illinois, following a two-day trial which concluded on June 22, 2018, the State's Attorney for Jackson County, Illinois, Michael C. Carr, announced today.

On June 10, 2017, at approximately 11:13 a.m., officers from the Carbondale Police Department were dispatched to the area of East James & Thelma Walker Street and North Robert A. Stalls Avenue in response to reports of multiple shots fired. As officers responded to that area, they were alerted that a vehicle with what appeared to be several gun shots was located at West Oak Street and North Irvin Street, and that a male had entered the emergency room at Carbondale Memorial Hospital with gunshot wounds.

Officers responded to the scene of the initial report of shots fired to see determine if there were any injured parties and to process the scene for potential evidence. Officers collected broken glass from a vehicle, five spent .40 caliber shell casings, one spent 9mm shell casing, and bullet fragments in the area and driveway of 401 North Robert A. Stalls Avenue.

Another officer located the reported vehicle near West Oak and North Irvin Streets and observed a shattered rear passenger window, a flat tire on the rear passenger side, and bullet strikes on the trunk and rear passenger bumper. A female who was standing by the vehicle identified herself as the owner of the car. She reported that at approximately 11:00 a.m. she drove herself and two relatives to a convenience store in Carbondale. When they pulled up, they noticed Rahsaan Graham, Jr. and another individual at the store. While at the store, one of the victim's relatives engaged in a verbal argument with the defendant. As the argument escalated, the victim and her other relative attempted to de-escalate the argument. The victim advised that she was aware that there had been issues between the defendant and her relative in the past, but she did not know the reason. When the victim and her passengers left the store, they proceeded to drive down James and Thelma Walker Avenue when she realized that she was being followed by the defendant and another person. As she approached the intersection of North Robert A. Stalls

Avenue, she heard several gunshots. She turned and saw Rahsaan Graham holding a handgun and firing at her vehicle. She heard her car window breaking and drove away quickly from the area. She noticed that one of her passengers had been shot so she drove to the hospital and then called the police.

During the trial, the jury heard evidence that the defendant, who was on bond waiting for trial, had attempted to intimidate, harass and threaten witnesses related to this case. The jury heard evidence that a witness was subjected to verbal threats and an offer of money to go on vacation and not testify. The jury also heard evidence that the defendant discharged a firearm in the direction of a witness early Sunday morning, June 17, 2018, right before his trial was scheduled. This incident occurred in the 500 block of Illinois Avenue and resulted in the defendant being arrested.

Graham is scheduled to be sentenced on August 22, 2018. Graham faces a maximum sentence of four (4) to fifteen (15) years in the Illinois Department of Corrections on the charge of Aggravated Discharge of a Firearm, a Class 1 Felony; and up to ten (10) years in the Illinois Department of Corrections on the charge of Unlawful Use of a Weapon by a Felon, a Class 3 Felony. He is being held by the Jackson County Sheriff, without bond, pending sentencing.

The Carbondale Police Department conducted the investigation in this case. Assistant State's Attorney Casey E.A. Bloodworth was responsible for the prosecution.