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SHRONE WRIGHT SENTENCED TO 25 YEARS STATE PRISON FOR DEATH OF WILLIAM GEARHART

Dutchess County District Attorney Anthony Parisi announces that 52 year old Shrone Wright, also known as “On Sight” of Poughkeepsie, was sentenced yesterday by Dutchess County Court Judge Jessica Segal to 25 years in state prison for the stabbing death of William Gearhart, a 50 year old father of two. The imposed sentence will also include 5 years of post-release supervision.

The conviction for the crime of Manslaughter in the First Degree, a class ‘B’ Violent Felony, occurred on March 12, 2026, after a Dutchess County jury heard nine days of testimony and after just over three hours of deliberations,

District Attorney Anthony Parisi said, “William Gearhart lost his life as the result of a senseless and needless act of violence in a City of Poughkeepsie park. The jury carefully weighed the evidence and held the defendant accountable for that fatal act. While nothing can restore Mr. Gearhart to his family, this conviction and sentence should send a strong message that violence of this kind will be met with accountability in Dutchess County. I want to commend the jurors for their service and thank the prosecutors, investigators, and law enforcement partners who worked tirelessly to seek justice in this case.”

The jury concluded that on the evening of November 6, 2024, in the City of Poughkeepsie, in the area of Pershing Avenue, the defendant engaged in a physical altercation with Mr. Gearhart and caused his death by a single stab wound to Mr. Gearhart’s upper torso, without justification.

The case was prosecuted by Unit Chief Frank Petramale and Deputy Unit Chief Robert DeMono. Prosecutors recognized the work by the City of Poughkeepsie Police Department which handled the investigation and located witnesses, collected security videos and utilized license plate readers within the City of Poughkeepsie to track down leads and collaborate witness testimony. The City Police’s investigation also had assistance from the New York State Police and the Town of Poughkeepsie Police Department.

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