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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**Dayton Man Sentenced in College Hill Park Shooting**

*State v. Charles L. Sanders, Jr. 2014-CR-1334*

**DAYTON, OH (04/01/2015)** – Prosecuting Attorney Mat Heck, Jr. announced that 29-year-old **Charles L. Sanders, Jr.**, of Dayton, was sentenced today for fatally shooting 28-year-old Aaron S. Smith during a basketball game at College Hill Park on April 1, 2014.

Just after 6:30 p.m. on Tuesday, April 1, 2014, at a crowded park, an argument during a basketball game ended when the defendant shot the victim multiple times, killing him. The defendant fled the area.

The defendant, located in Nashville, Tennessee, was extradited to Montgomery County. On July 2, 2014, the defendant was indicted on counts of Murder, Felonious Assault and Having Weapons Under Disability for a prior drug conviction.

A jury found him guilty as charged on all counts and specifications on March 19, 2015. Today he was sentenced to serve 18 years-to-life in the penitentiary.

The defendant currently has a pending case, 2014-CR-3055, in which he was indicted on a charge of possessing heroin, found on him while he was in jail, after being indicted for murder.

Prosecutor Heck continued, “Besides killing the victim, this defendant also put many other people’s lives at risk by shooting in a crowded park. Gun violence is never the way to settle disagreements or arguments.”

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