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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Tabaree Shabazz Sentenced for Girlfriend's Murder

State v. Tabaree Thompson Shabazz , 2014-CR-3732

DAYTON, OH (06/09/2016) – Prosecutor Mat Heck, Jr. announced today that 43-year-old **Tabaree Thompson Shabazz**, of Dayton, was sentenced to 25 years to life for the murder and felonious assault of his girlfriend, Shelia Gibson.

On July 13, 2014, Dayton Police officers discovered the body of the 45-year-old victim inside her E. Fourth Street residence. The victim was last seen alive by neighbors on July 11, 2014. Neighbors had contacted the police after they became concerned about not seeing the victim for a number of days. An autopsy determined the victim had been killed from blunt force trauma.

On February 24, 2015, the defendant was indicted on counts of murder and felonious assault with Repeat Violent Offender (RVO) specifications. The RVO specification is due to the defendant having been previously convicted of attempted rape in an unrelated case.

On May 23, 2016, a jury found the defendant guilty of murder and one count of felonious assault. Today, the trial judge found the defendant guilty on the RVO specification, which provides for a discretionary prison term of 2-10 years in addition to the sentence for murder.

The defendant was sentenced to 15 years to life for the murder and felonious assault counts and an additional, consecutive 10 years incarceration for the RVO specification, for a total of 25 years to life in prison.

Prosecutor Heck continued, “This defendant is clearly extremely violent and dangerous. He senselessly beat this victim to death. He should serve the entire time of his sentence due to his horrendous actions and propensity for violence.”

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