



**MAT HECK, JR.**  
**PROSECUTING ATTORNEY**

Montgomery County, Ohio  
(937) 225-5757  
info@mcpo.com

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**Dayton Man Sentenced for Two Homicides Committed Hours Apart**  
*State v. Christopher Smith 2019-CR-4182*

**DAYTON, OH (08/30/2022)** – Montgomery County Prosecuting Attorney Mat Heck, Jr. announced today that **CHRISTOPHER LEON SMITH**, 31, was sentenced to life in prison after being convicted of shooting three victims, killing two, just hours apart on December 5, 2019.

On Thursday, December 5, 2018, at approximately 2:50 a.m., the defendant fired rounds from a handgun at two males, injuring one and fatally shooting 34-year-old Brandon Harris, outside Rick's Jazz Lab on Lakeview Avenue in Dayton. Then, at approximately 10:10 a.m., 34-year-old Clarence Brown, III was fatally shot outside the Save Food Super Market on Germantown Street. The second shooting occurred approximately 100 feet from the first shooting, as the properties are adjacent to each other.

Homicide detectives interviewed multiple witnesses, obtained surveillance videos, and compared ballistic information from the shooting to identify the shooter.

On January 28, 2020, the Montgomery County Grand Jury indicted the defendant on:

- Four counts of Murder
- Six counts of Felonious Assault
- Two counts of Having Weapons Under Disability – prior offense of violence
- Two counts of Having Weapons Under Disability – prior drug offense

The counts of murder and felonious assault include 3-year firearm specifications.

On August 5, 2022, after a trial, the jury returned verdicts of guilty as charged on all counts and specifications.

Today, the defendant was sentenced to life in prison and will not be eligible for consideration of parole until he has served at least 38 years of incarceration.

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For more information contact Greg Flannagan, Public Information Officer, at 937.225.5610 or [flannagang@mcoho.org](mailto:flannagang@mcoho.org).