

STATE OF OHIO V. JASON DEAN

SENTENCING SEPTEMBER 30, 2011



On Friday, September 30, 2011, Jason Dean was sentenced to death by visiting Judge Summer Walters. Dean was found guilty by a Clark County jury on September 15, 2011, of 13 charges, including aggravated murder, attempted murder, and aggravated robbery. During the penalty phase of the trial the Jury recommended that the Judge impose a death sentence on the Defendant for the aggravated murder. The Defendant was also found guilty of four counts of weapons under disability by Judge Walters who was sitting by assignment. In addition to the death penalty on the aggravated murder charge, the Judge sentenced Dean to 125 years in prison on the other charges.

After being released from prison on April 1, 2005, the Defendant, Jason Dean, and his co-defendant Joshua Wade went on a four-day crime spree that began with the attempted murder and aggravated robbery of two people on the lot of the Selma Road Mini-Mart in Springfield, Ohio on April 10, 2005. On April 12, 2005 Dean and Wade participated in a drive-by shooting on Dibert Avenue where the victims, including a one year old girl, and a pregnant woman, were fired upon while sitting on a porch. The spree ended on April 13, 2005, when Titus Arnold, a youth counselor who was leaving work early to get home to his 9-day-old baby, was shot and killed after being robbed of \$6.

On April 21, 2005, the Springfield Police Department executed search warrants on the residences of Jason Dean, and Joshua Wade and arrested both men, along with recovering the murder weapon in Dean's house.

Dean had previously been convicted of these crimes in 2006, and sentenced to death, but the conviction was overturned by the Ohio Supreme Court in 2010. Wade, who was a juvenile at the time and was not eligible for the death penalty under Ohio law, was convicted and sentenced to life in prison in 2006.

"The Clark County Prosecutor's Office is pleased with the sentence," said Clark County Prosecutor Andy Wilson. "Twenty-four citizens of our community and two judges have now said that Mr. Dean deserves the death penalty for his role in Titus Arnold's murder. This is a just sentence and hopefully provides a sense of closure to the Arnold family."

Clark County Prosecuting Attorney Andy Wilson, along with former Clark County Prosecutor Stephen A. Schumaker, currently with the Ohio Attorney General's office, and former Assistant Prosecutor Darnell E. Carter represented the State of Ohio in the case. Detective Darwin Hicks and Detective Doug Estep were lead investigators for the Springfield Police Department.