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## **Larry Jo Taylor Jr. convicted for the 2015 murder of Amanda Blackburn**

INDIANAPOLIS, Ind. – Marion County Prosecutor Ryan Mears announced today that Larry Jo Taylor Jr. has been convicted for the Murder of Amanda Blackburn and additional felonies related to burglaries of multiple homes. Taylor was convicted of Murder, Felony Murder, Burglary (Level 1 Felony), two counts of Theft (Level 6 Felony and Misdemeanor), Criminal Confinement (Level 3 Felony), two counts of Burglary (Level 4 Felonies), Auto Theft (Level 6 Felony), Carrying a Handgun Without a License (A Misdemeanor). The Court's decision comes after two previous mistrials.

"We are pleased with today's verdict and that we are finally able to bring justice for Amanda and her family. It has taken a tremendous amount of patience and grace to get to this moment," Prosecutor Mears stated. "This case would not have been possible without cooperation from the community and their continued support over the past several years."

In the morning hours of November 10, 2015, police were dispatched to the city's north side on reports of break-ins in the area. Multiple homes had been burglarized and one person had been injured the process. Taylor and two others identified as Jalen Watson and Diano Gordon, were involved in the string of burglaries. Taylor shot and killed Blackburn while he was burglarizing her home.

In 2017, Jalen Watson pleaded guilty to Burglary and Robbery Resulting in Serious Bodily Injury and was sentence to 29 years in prison for his role in the crime.

In 2018, Gordon pleaded guilty to Burglary and Robbery Resulting in Serious Bodily Injury. A Sentencing Hearing is expected to be scheduled in the future.

A Sentencing Hearing has been scheduled for Friday, October 14 at 1 p.m. in Criminal Court 31.