

Marion County Prosecutor's Office



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Media Release:

February 24, 2023

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Sammy Tinnin sentenced to 60 years for the murder of John Shockley

INDIANAPOLIS, Ind. – Marion County Prosecutor Ryan Mears announced today that Sammy Tinnin has been sentenced to 60 years in the Indiana Department of Correction for the August 2020 murder of John Shockley. Tinnin was convicted of Murder by a jury in January.

On the morning of August 12, 2020, IMPD officers were dispatched to a gas station in the 2500 block of N. Emerson Ave. When officers arrived on scene, they discovered John Shockley unconscious in a vehicle and suffering from a gunshot wound. Investigators utilized cooperating witnesses and surveillance video of the shooting to identify Tinnin as a suspect.

According to witnesses, Tinnin shot and killed Shockley after a brief altercation that began after he hit Shockley's car while backing into a parking spot.

"This case demonstrates our commitment to justice in the face of adversity," Prosecutor Mears said. "The investigation faced significant evidentiary challenges that led to the case being dismissed and eventually refiled after investigators were able to uncover additional evidence. I want to thank the Shockley family for the dignity and grace they have demonstrated throughout this entire process."

Tinnin's fingerprints were located on the door of the suspect's vehicle. On the surveillance video, the shooter can be seen touching that spot as he reentered the vehicle after shooting the victim.