

Marion County Prosecutor's Office



Ryan Mears, Prosecutor

   @MCProsecutors

 mcpo@indy.gov

Media Release:

June 21, 2023

Contacts:

Michael Leffler, Michael.Leffler@indy.gov

Marisa Watson-Juarez, Marisa.Watson-Juarez@indy.gov

Three sentenced to over 100 years in prison in the murder of Chris Beaty

Marcus Anderson, Alijah Jones, Nakeyah Shields convicted of robberies, murder

INDIANAPOLIS, Ind. – Marion County Prosecutor Ryan Mears announced today that Marcus Anderson, Alijah Jones, and Nakeyah Shields have been sentenced for their roles in several armed robberies and the shooting death of Chris Beaty that occurred in May 2020. The three individuals were indicted by two Marion County Grand Juries after several months and investigations into the events that occurred prior to Beaty's murder.

Marcus Anderson has been sentenced to 164 years in prison. Anderson will serve an additional 3 years in prison for a VOP violation on a previous case. In May, he was found guilty of two counts of Murder and eight counts of Armed Robbery.

Alijah Jones has been sentenced to 164 years in prison. Jones will also serve an additional year in prison for a VOP violation on a previous case. In May, he was convicted of Murder and eight counts of Armed Robbery.

Nakeyah Shields has been sentenced to 108 years in prison. In May, she was convicted of Murder and seven counts of Armed Robbery.

The shooting occurred on May 30, 2020, in downtown Indianapolis. Extensive investigation by the Indianapolis Metropolitan Police Department revealed that Anderson, Jones, and Shields committed armed robbery or attempted armed robbery of six other individuals on the same evening. The crimes occurred within a matter of minutes ending with the murder of Beaty, which took place in the area near 400 N. Talbott and Vermont Street.

Prosecutor Mears released the following statement at the time of the verdict:

"Today we are grateful to the Beaty family for the dignity, grace, and patience they have continuously displayed throughout this difficult process. Chris tragically lost his life while caring for others and his city. His death was felt by many throughout Indianapolis, Bloomington, and beyond.

In a time of unrest and doubt, his legacy inspired many to live each day to the fullest, look out for others, and to do the right thing. A legacy that is just as relevant as it was three years ago — may we all continue to 'Live like Chris' and make our community a better place."

Prosecutor Mears credits law enforcement, the trial team of deputy prosecutors, paralegals, and victim advocates who worked together since May 2020 to obtain justice on behalf of Beaty and his family.

Chris Beaty was a well-known local figure, nicknamed “Mr. Indianapolis.” He was a former Cathedral High School student-athlete who went on to play football at Indiana University. His death drew national attention due to his collegiate athletic career as well as his generous actions within his home city of Indianapolis.