



OFFICE OF THE
COMMONWEALTH'S ATTORNEY

JUDICIAL CENTER

9311 Lee Avenue, Suite 200
MANASSAS, VIRGINIA 20110

AMY ASHWORTH
COMMONWEALTH'S ATTORNEY

Phone: (703)792-6050
Email: CWOoffice@pwcgov.org

Please note: This email is sent to you on behalf of the Commonwealth's Attorney's Office, please cite "The Office of the Commonwealth's Attorney" as the source.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

March 14, 2024, 3 PM

Prince William County, VA

Prince William County Commonwealth's Attorney Amy Ashworth announces the successful prosecution of Isaiah McGriff arising from the July 2022 murder of a Woodbridge woman. On March 12, 2024, a Prince William County jury found Mr. McGriff guilty of second-degree murder and use of a firearm in commission of a felony. The matter was prosecuted by Senior Assistant Commonwealth Attorneys Kathleen Bilton and Dircia Schubert

Commonwealth of Virginia v. Isaiah McGriff

On July 1, 2022, police responded to a shooting at 13990 Jefferson Davis Hwy (Longview 7-Eleven) in Prince William County. Police located the victim, Claudia Morataya, deceased, with an apparent gunshot wound to the abdomen. Investigation revealed that the defendant, Isaiah McGriff, was outside the 7-Eleven that night, as were the victim and a number of other individuals, drinking and socializing prior to the shooting. At one point, the victim and the defendant became engaged in a verbal dispute, and the victim threw a beer bottle at the defendant's head. The defendant was heard saying "I'm cripp, bitch, we don't bleed." The defendant was later seen shooting the victim in the woods nearby.

The firearm used in the homicide was recovered at an apartment nearby. The defendant was known to stay at that apartment and his license and other documents were found there. During an interview with detectives, the defendant denied being present anywhere near the 7-Eleven that night, however, he was recorded approximately 15 minutes after the homicide on a doorbell camera at the same apartment building where the gun was found.

Mr. McGriff will be sentenced by a Prince William County Circuit Court Judge on July 25, 2024.

Commonwealth's Attorney Amy Ashworth offered the following comment:

“This was a very technical and difficult case that took a lot of investigation on the part of the police detectives who obtained much of the circumstantial evidence that allowed us to proceed to trial. I am extremely grateful that we were able to obtain justice for Claudia’s senseless murder and am proud of the work of everyone involved, most importantly the two prosecutors who took this challenging case on and ultimately succeeded.”

The Office of the Commonwealth’s Attorney would like to recognize Kristen Marek, Deputy Director of the Commonwealth’s Attorney’s Victim/Witness Program, for the vital assistance she provided the victim and her family. We also want to recognize the hard work of the Prince County Police Department detectives and officers who worked on this case.

###

Amy Ashworth is the elected Commonwealth's Attorney for Prince William County and the Cities of Manassas and Manassas Park. She was elected in November 2019 and was re-elected in 2023 for a second four-year term. The Commonwealth Attorney’s Office can be reached from 8:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. every business day by phone at 703-792-6050 or email at cwoffice@pwcgov.org.