

NINETEENTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT  
PARISH OF EAST BATON ROUGE  
STATE OF LOUISIANA  
DIVISION J, SECTION VIII

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STATE OF LOUISIANA .  
V. . DOCKET NO. 10-09-0544  
DERRICK GEORGE GORDY .  
. . . . .

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 2012

SENTENCING

THE HONORABLE TRUDY M. WHITE, JUDGE PRESIDING

APPEARANCES:  
MARK PETHKE  
BRUCE CRAFT

FOR:  
STATE OF LOUISIANA  
THE DEFENDANT

REPORTED BY: TAPESTRY SMITH, CCR #24006

**TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 2012**

(DEFENDANT IS PRESENT IN COURT WITH COUNSEL)

**THE COURT:** TO AID IN THE CONSIDERATION FOR SENTENCING AS SET FORTH IN ARTICLE 894.1 OF THE CODE OF CRIMINAL PROCEDURE, THIS COURT DID ORDER THAT A PRE-SENTENCE INVESTIGATION BE CONDUCTED. AFTER HEARING THE EVIDENCE PRESENTED AT TRIAL, REVIEWING THE PRE-SENTENCE REPORT AND HEARING THE TESTIMONY OFFERED IN COURT TODAY, THE COURT FINDS THAT THERE ARE SEVERAL AGGRAVATING FACTORS PRESENT IN THIS MATTER. MR. GORDY, YOU HAD A BLATANT DISREGARD FOR THOSE WHO COULD HAVE BEEN SEVERELY INJURED AND TWO PEOPLE WERE KILLED AS A RESULT OF YOUR ACTIONS. YOUR ACTIONS EVIDENCED AN INDISCRIMINATE CALLOUSNESS ON YOUR PART TOWARDS YOUR VICTIMS WHICH SHOWED ABSOLUTELY NO REGARD FOR THE VALUE OF HUMAN LIFE. THESE KILLINGS WERE COMMITTED IN THE MIDDLE OF A NEIGHBORHOOD OF MULTI-UNIT FAMILY HOMES, IN THE MIDDLE OF A STREET WHERE MANY PEOPLE SIT OUTSIDE IN THE EVENINGS. THERE'S NO TELLING THE NUMBER OF INNOCENT PEOPLE WHO MIGHT HAVE BEEN UNINTENDED VICTIMS OF THIS SENSELESS VIOLENCE, INCLUDING AN INFANT WHO WAS ASLEEP IN ONE OF THE HOMES THAT THIS CRIME TOOK PLACE IN FRONT OF. THE RECORD SHOWED, THE FACTS SHOWED AND THE EVIDENCE SHOWED THAT MRS. PAT ALDRIDGE WAS BRAVE ENOUGH TO CALL THE POLICE AND PURSUE YOU. AT SOME POINT IN THE PURSUIT IN HER ATTEMPT TO KEEP HER NEIGHBORHOOD SAFE, MR. GORDY, YOU DECIDED TO RUN AWAY AND RETRIEVE A WEAPON. NOT JUST ANY WEAPON, BUT AN ASSAULT RIFLE. A

RIFLE SIMILAR TO THE ONES USED BY TERRORISTS IN AFGHANISTAN AND INSURGENTS IN IRAQ. WHILE MRS. ALDRIDGE WAS BRAVE ENOUGH TO CALL THE POLICE, YOU ACTED LIKE A COWARD. IN THE MIDDLE OF A SUBURBAN STREET LINED WITH FAMILY HOMES, YOU RETURNED WITH A WEAPON OF WARFARE THAT WAS DESIGNED TO DO NOTHING BUT KILL. THE WEAPON YOU USED THAT NIGHT IS KNOWN ON THE STREET AS A CHOPPER, AND THAT'S JUST WHAT YOU DID. YOU CHOPPED MRS. ALDRIDGE DOWN IN COLD BLOOD. RONNIE THACKER RAN TO PROTECT HIS MOTHER FROM BEING SHOT, AND HE MET THE SAME FATE. YOU CHOPPED HIM DOWN AS WELL. THE VICTIMS WERE UNARMED, AND AFTER YOU SHOT THEM BOTH NUMEROUS TIMES, YOU STOOD OVER PAT ALDRIDGE, AND IN COLD BLOOD AS SHE'S DYING AND ON THE CELL PHONE TO POLICE, FIRED OTHER SHOTS INTO HER. THE JURY, THIS COURT AND EVERYBODY IN THE COURTROOM HEARD HER LAST BREATHS, THE GURGLING, AND THEN IT WENT SILENT. YOUR VICTIMS, A MOTHER AND HER SON, LOST THEIR LIVES AS A RESULT OF YOUR ACTIONS. YOU DECIDED THAT YOU WOULD TAKE THE LIVES OF TWO INNOCENT PEOPLE AND YOU DID SO IN AN ANIMALISTIC FASHION. YOU TOOK AWAY A LADY, WHO WAS A MOTHER, A GRANDMOTHER AND A WIFE. YOU TOOK AWAY A YOUNG MAN, WHO WAS A FATHER, A BROTHER AND A SON. AND YOU DID SO AS THEIR FAMILY AND FRIENDS WATCHED HELPLESSLY. YOUR ACTIONS WERE BOTH HEINOUS AND HEARTLESS. WHILE THE COURT DOES ACKNOWLEDGE YOUR YOUTH AT THE TIME OF THE INCIDENT AS BEING SIXTEEN, ALMOST SEVENTEEN, YOUTH MOST DEFINITELY DOES NOT MITIGATE THE HORRIFIC MANNER IN WHICH THIS CRIME WAS COMMITTED. THE COURT IS TROUBLED

BY THE HIGH PROPENSITY FOR VIOLENCE AMONG THE YOUNG PEOPLE IN OUR COMMUNITY, THE OLD PEOPLE IN OUR COMMUNITY AND ALL PEOPLE IN OUR COMMUNITY WHO COMMIT VIOLENCE. THE COURT IS AWARE THAT AS A RESULT OF ITS SENTENCE THAT YOU WILL HAVE TO GO TO PRISON BEFORE YOU EVER REALLY BEGAN TO EXPERIENCE THE JOYS OF LIFE. IT IS A SAD STORY THAT WE SEE ALL TOO OFTEN IN THE CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM. WHAT IS EVEN SADDER TO ME TODAY IS THE FACT THAT YOUR HEARTLESS ACTIONS HAVE TAKEN AWAY A FATHER AND A GRANDMOTHER OF AN INNOCENT GIRL. MR. GORDY, YOU MUST BE HELD ACCOUNTABLE FOR YOUR ACTIONS, AS THOSE VERY ACTIONS HAVE SHOWN THAT YOU CANNOT BE A TRUSTED MEMBER OF SOCIETY. MR. GORDY, AT THIS TIME I ASK YOU TO STAND. MR. GORDY, AFTER CONSIDERING THE FACTORS SET FORTH IN ARTICLE 894.1 AND APPLYING THOSE FACTORS TO THE RECORD IN THIS MATTER, THE COURT, ON THE CONVICTION OF TWO COUNTS OF MANSLAUGHTER, HEREBY SENTENCES YOU AS FOLLOWS: ON COUNT ONE, FOR THE KILLING OF PATRICIA ALDRIDGE, TO A TERM OF IMPRISONMENT OF FORTY YEARS AT HARD LABOR, TO BE SERVED WITHOUT THE BENEFIT OF PROBATION, PAROLE OR SUSPENSION OF SENTENCE. ONE MINUTE.

**MR. CRAFT:** JUST A NOTE FOR YOUR HONOR, I DON'T BELIEVE THAT THE STATUTE ON MANSLAUGHTER PROVIDES FOR A WITHOUT BENEFIT SENTENCING. I BELIEVE IT HAS TO BE A BENEFIT SENTENCING.

**THE COURT:** THAT'S WHAT I WAS ABOUT TO SAY. JUST A MINUTE. ALL RIGHT. THE COURT SENTENCES YOU TO IMPRISONMENT OF FORTY YEARS AT HARD LABOR. ON COUNT TWO, FOR THE KILLING OF RONALD THACKER,

THE COURT SENTENCES YOU TO A TERM OF IMPRISONMENT OF FORTY YEARS AT HARD LABOR. THESE SENTENCES ARE TO BE SERVED CONSECUTIVELY TO ONE ANOTHER. THE COURT WANTS TO INFORM YOU THAT YOU HAVE THIRTY DAYS TO ASK FOR A RECONSIDERATION OF YOUR SENTENCE, THIRTY DAYS TO APPEAL AND TWO YEARS TO FILE FOR ANY POST-CONVICTION RELIEF. THAT'S THIS COURT'S RULING.

**MR. CRAFT:** NOTE FOR THE RECORD, YOUR HONOR, OUR OBJECTION TO THE SENTENCE OF THE COURT FOR RECORD PURPOSES.

**THE COURT:** ALL RIGHT. YOUR OBJECTION IS NOTED, SIR.

**MR. CRAFT:** THANK YOU, YOUR HONOR.

**THE COURT:** YOU WILL BE TRANSFERRED TO THE CUSTODY OF THE DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS TO SERVE OUT YOUR TERM OF SENTENCING, SIR.

**MR. CRAFT:** YOUR HONOR, IN CONNECTION WITH THAT, IT WOULD BE OUR INTENT TO FILE A WRITTEN MOTION FOR RECONSIDERATION. I'LL MAKE AN ORAL MOTION FOR RECONSIDERATION OF SENTENCE AT THIS TIME.

**THE COURT:** YOUR ORAL MOTION FOR RECONSIDERATION IS DENIED.

**MR. CRAFT:** THANK YOU, YOUR HONOR.

**END OF TRANSCRIPT**