

Press Release to News Media:

Wednesday, March 30, 2022

St. Landry Parish District Attorney

**St. Landry Parish Grand Jury
Indicts four defendants for 3 separate murders**

A St. Landry Parish Grand Jury reviewed three separate murder cases Monday and returned indictments against four defendants.

In the first case, a 15 year old juvenile was indicted for the 2nd degree murder of Keith Joseph from Washington. The juvenile is accused of shooting the victim at a residence in Washington on December 31, 2021. District Attorney Chad Pitre indicated his office charged the juvenile as an adult. “Here in the 27th JDC we are prosecuting violent juvenile offenders as adults unless the evidence indicates otherwise,” said Pitre. The St. Landry Parish Sheriff’s Department is in charge of this investigation.

The second indictment handed down Monday was against Jaleel Durisseau, 19, for the 1st degree murder of Corey Rosette, Jr. on Valentines Day in an Opelousas apartment. Mr Rosette was found dead in his home on February 14, 2022. The Louisiana Forensic Center issued a preliminary report indicating the cause of death was by gunshot wound. Opelousas Police Department is investigating this matter.

The third and fourth indictments, according to District Attorney Pitre, were against co-defendants, Jaden Ardoin, 18, and Jaiman Mason, 20, both of Port Barre, for the killing of Wade Shaquille Vaughn-Smith from Melville. Ardoin and Mason were indicted for 1st degree murder including another indictment for the attempted 1st degree murder of a second victim, James Preston Allen Vaughn, brother of the deceased victim. This crime occurred last month on February 15th near Melville in St. Landry Parish. It is alleged that the victims were traveling together in a vehicle when several bullets fired by defendants struck both victims. The Sheriff’s Department is in charge of this investigation.

By: 

Chad P. Pitre, St. Landry Parish District Attorney:
Ph. 337-948-3041 or email: cpitre@stlandryda.org