



COUNTY OF FRESNO

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NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Malcolm Jamal McCoy and Faheem Karim Muhammad Charged in the Murder of Adavier Thomas

The Fresno County District Attorney's Office has filed charges against Malcolm Jamal McCoy (33, of Fresno) and Faheem Karim Muhammad (39, of Fresno) for the murder of 41-year-old Adavier Thomas of Sacramento.

It is alleged that on April 16, 2023, McCoy and Muhammad were in the parking lot of Zack's Market in Southwest Fresno when McCoy exited the suspect vehicle and shot at an unidentified male and then shot Thomas multiple times, causing his death. Both suspects fled the scene in the suspect vehicle. Nearby Fresno Police Department officers who heard the gunshots followed the suspect's vehicle. The driver, Muhammad, evaded police and a pursuit ensued until they were ultimately stopped. Prior to the killing of Thomas, the two suspects are alleged to have assaulted two other individuals nearby with a firearm.

The Felony Complaint filed in the Superior Court alleges that Malcolm Jamal McCoy and Faheem Karim Muhammad committed:

- One (1) Count of MURDER [Penal Code §187(a)] as to both defendants.
- One (1) Enhancement of PERSONAL AND INTENTIONAL USE OF A FIREARM CAUSING DEATH [Penal Code §12022.53(d)] as to defendant McCoy.
- One (1) Enhancement of PRINCIPAL ARMED WITH A FIREARM/GANG CASE [Penal Code §12022.53(d)/12022.53 (e)(1)] as to defendant Muhammad.
- One (1) Special Circumstance of GANG RELATED MURDER [Penal Code §190.2(a)(22)] as to both defendants.
- One (1) Count of ATTEMPTED MURDER [Penal Code §664/187(a)] as to both defendants.
- One (1) Enhancement of PERSONAL AND INTENTIONAL DISCHARGE OF A FIREARM [Penal Code §12022.53(c)] as to defendant McCoy.
- One (1) Enhancement of PRINCIPAL ARMED WITH A FIREARM/GANG CASE [Penal Code §12022.53(c)/12022.53(e)(1)] as to defendant Muhammad.
- One (1) Count of ASSAULT WITH A SEMIAUTOMATIC FIREARM [Penal Code §245(b)] as to both defendants.
- One (1) Enhancement of PERSONAL USE OF A FIREARM [Penal Code §12022.5(a)] as to defendant McCoy.
- Two enhancements of STREET TERRORISM [Penal Code §186.22(b)(1)] as to both defendants.

- One (1) Count of FELON IN POSSESSION OF A FIREARM [Penal Code §29800(a)(1)] as to defendant McCoy.
- One (1) Count of POSSESSION OF AMMUNITION BY A PERSON PROHIBITED FROM OWNING A FIREARM [Penal Code §30305(a)(1)] as to defendant McCoy.
- One (1) Count of EVADING AN OFFICER [Penal Code §2800.2(a)] as to defendant Muhammad.

Both defendants are alleged to have suffered prior serious or violent felony convictions (Prior Strikes) [Penal Code §667(b)-(i)].

If convicted of all charges and allegations, both defendants face life without the possibility of parole or the death penalty. The District Attorney's Office is currently conducting the necessary analysis on whether to seek the death penalty and will make an announcement on that decision at a later date.

Both defendants were arrested in Fresno on April 16, 2023 and thereafter booked into the Fresno County Jail. The arraignment is scheduled for April 19, 2023, at 8:30 AM in Department 30 of the Fresno County Superior Court.

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