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PRESS RELEASE

Edwardsville—Madison County State's Attorney Thomas D. Gibbons announced that Marcus T. Powell (d.o.b. 10/19/80) was sentenced today to 80 years in prison for his role in the October 2008 shooting death of 12-year-old DeLarrian J. Davis in Madison, Illinois.

Powell was convicted by a Madison County jury on February 15, 2012 in a trial that began on February 6, 2012, in Edwardsville. After about nine hours of deliberation, the jury convicted Powell of First Degree Murder and Aggravated Discharge of a Firearm.

Davis was shot and killed as he did his homework at his home in Madison. An ongoing dispute between Powell and the victim's mother and step-father led to Powell firing shots into the home. Davis was shot in the head and died at the scene. Assistant State's Attorneys Jennifer Vucich and Neil Schroeder prosecuted the case for the State's Attorney's Office. Testimony for the prosecution included the victim's mother, Sophia Campbell and step-father, Kevin Campbell who was believed to be the intended target.

Assistant State's Attorney Vucich asked Associate Judge James Hackett to sentence Powell to the maximum amount on both charges which was 20-60 years in prison on the murder and 4-15 years in prison on the firearm charge. Powell received a sentence of 40 years on the murder plus another 25 years for using a gun in the crime. He must serve 100% of the sentence for the murder. He was also sentenced to 15 years on the Aggravated Discharge of a Firearm. He must serve 85% of that sentence which will run consecutively with his sentence for the murder. Additionally, Powell was sentenced in federal court this past summer for dealing crack cocaine and received a 35-year sentence. He will begin his sentence in state prison.

"DeLarrian Davis deserved a better fate," stated Gibbons. "His promising life was cut short by a despicable act of violence. I'm satisfied that Marcus Powell will spend the rest of his life behind bars, where he belongs. Our community will be a safer place without him. It is my hope that this will bring some measure of closure for DeLarrian's family. My prayers are with them."

Gibbons commended the work of his prosecutors on this particularly tough case as well as officers with both the Madison Police Department and the Major Case Squad of Greater St. Louis.

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