

Jackie Lacey
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NEWS RELEASE

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Two Found Guilty in 2011 Halloween Murder of Good Samaritan

Two men have been found guilty by a jury for the murder of a good Samaritan in Canyon Country on Halloween three years ago, the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office announced today.

Deputy District Attorney Bradley Lieberman said Diamonte Jerome McGhee (dob 1/13/94) of Canyon Country and Eric Michael Edwards (4/24/94) of Lancaster were found guilty late yesterday of one count each of first-degree murder and second-degree robbery and four counts each of attempted murder and assault with a semiautomatic firearm in case PA071844.

The jury found true a special circumstance allegation that the murder occurred during the commission of a robbery.

McGhee also was found to have personally fired the handgun during the murder and attempted murder.

Additionally, he was found guilty of one additional count of assault with a semiautomatic firearm for a separate incident on Oct. 29, 2011.

Sentencing hearings for McGhee and Edwards are scheduled on Jan. 22 and Feb. 2, respectively in Department D of the Los Angeles County Superior Court, San Fernando Branch.

Because the defendants were juveniles at the time of the crime, they face life in prison without the possibility of parole or multiple life sentences.

The jury was unable to reach a verdict as to third defendant Branden Trevaughn Higgs (dob 8/15/94) and he will be retried. A pretrial hearing for Higgs is scheduled on Dec. 5.

On Oct. 31, 2011, Alejandro Sánchez-Tórrez came to the aid of a man who was being beaten and robbed by the three co-defendants, the prosecutor said. McGhee then shot Sánchez-Tórrez in the chest and

shot at the robbery victim as he attempted to escape, the prosecutor added. The robbery victim was hit by the gun fire but survived his injuries.

The case remains under investigation by the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department.

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About the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office

Los Angeles County District Attorney Jackie Lacey leads the largest local prosecutorial office in the nation. Her staff of nearly 1,000 attorneys, 300 investigators and 800 support staff members is dedicated to seeking justice for victims of crime and enhancing public safety. Last year, the [Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office](#) prosecuted more than 73,000 felony defendants and 113,000 misdemeanor defendants.