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NEWS RELEASE

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## **Two Sentenced for Murder of Teenager Wearing Red Clothing**

Two men were sentenced today for the murder of a 19-year-old man for wearing red clothing, the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office announced.

Kevin Deon Johnson, 26, was sentenced to 50 years to life in state prison and Kanasho Shadrick Johns, 29, received a 53 years-to-life sentence.

Deputy District Attorney Bobby Zoumberakis of the Hardcore Gang Division said both were found guilty on Oct. 24 of one count of first-degree murder with gang and use of a handgun allegations.

Johns also was found guilty of one count of possession of a firearm by a felon and the jury found true an allegation that Johns personally used a handgun to kill the victim, Tavin Price.

A third defendant, Dwight Kevin Smith, 31, pleaded guilty on Aug. 25 to one count of voluntary manslaughter and faces 12 years in state prison. Sentencing for Smith is scheduled on Dec. 7 in Department 105 of the Foltz Criminal Justice Center.

The victim was at a car wash near Florence Avenue and Crenshaw Boulevard on May 29, 2015, when a defendant approached him and asked about his gang affiliation because he was wearing red sneakers and a red shirt, according to trial testimony. Price was not a member of a gang, had no criminal record and had a developmental disability.

Soon after, Johns fatally shot the teenager four times in the back and chest, the prosecutor said.

Case BA437495 was investigated by the Los Angeles Police Department, 77<sup>th</sup> Division.

## **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 protecting our community through the fair and ethical pursuit of justice and the safeguarding of crime victims' rights.