



**NEWS RELEASE**

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**Jahvell Daquan Forrest Sentenced to 30 Years in Shooting of Police Officer**

Jahvell Daquan Forrest was sentenced Tuesday to 30 years in prison in the shooting of Aurora Police Officer Ryan Burns on November 14, 2014.

Forrest (DOB 10/16/94) shot at Burns and Officer Dale Leonard during a traffic stop of a stolen vehicle in the 1700 block of Fulton Street in Aurora. Burns was struck in the leg. Leonard applied a tourniquet at the scene which is credited with saving Burns' life.

Forrest was convicted in February on six counts of attempted reckless manslaughter, two counts of second-degree assault, aggravated motor vehicle theft and felony menacing, all Class 5 felonies.

"He tried to kill both of these officers that night," Chief Deputy District Attorney Rhoda Pilmer told the judge during the sentencing hearing in Adams County District Court. "Someone who treats our law enforcement officers this way truly has no respect for this community and needs to be held accountable. It was Officer Leonard who saved his partner's life that night. But for that tourniquet on that cold icy street that night, Officer Burns would not have made it."

District Judge Robert Kiesnowski Jr., rejected Forrest's apology for his actions. "The only thing I think you're sorry about is that you got caught and are going to prison," he said. "The community needs to know that when you fire a weapon at anyone, especially a police officer, the consequences are dire. It is not open season on police officers, the men and women who put their lives on the line to protect the rest of us."

"The defendant shot at two police officers who were doing their duty to protect and serve the citizens of our community," said District Attorney Dave Young. "Officer Burns would have died without the life-saving action taken by his partner. We are satisfied with the sentence for this horrific crime and hope it sends a message that this conduct will not be tolerated in our community."

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