



NEWS RELEASE

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Truck Driver Convicted of Attempted Second-degree Murder in Truck Stop Shooting

An Adams County District Court jury convicted Byron Wayne Linton (DOB 02/13/52) on Thursday of attempted second-degree murder (F3) and first-degree assault (F3) in the shooting of a man at the Sapp Brothers truck stop in Commerce City last year.

Keith Williams, 24, of Denver, had just gotten off work from UPS on October 29, 2015 and was still in his uniform, putting air in his car's tires when Linton, of Grand Junction, drove up behind him in his Peterbilt truck with a car trailer attached, wanting to weigh his load. Linton got out of his truck and confronted Williams, who was getting in his car to leave. An argument ensued and Linton pulled out a gun, shooting Williams in the abdomen.

The jury deliberated less than three hours before convicting Linton on both counts. Sentencing is set for 8:30 a.m. January 12 in Division L of Adams County District Court.

Linton contended that that he was scared, that the shooting was accidental and that he didn't know his finger was on the trigger. But Deputy District Attorney Josh Raaz said Linton was an experienced shooter who had held a concealed carry permit for 10 years.

"This was a young black man in his UPS uniform minding his own business," said Deputy District Attorney Alex Baker. "The defendant gunned down Keith Williams like a cowboy and calmly reholstered his gun. He didn't look. He didn't fumble. It was just like in the movies. This was not accidental. This is the kind of guy that gives gun owners a bad name."

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