



NEWS RELEASE

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Man Convicted and Sentenced to Life in Prison in Christmas Eve 2015 Murder

Anthony Gerald Wernsman was convicted of first-degree murder and sentenced to life in prison without parole Friday in the shooting death of John Dunnigan on December 24, 2015 in Adams County.

Adams County deputies responding to a 911 call found Dunnigan, 42, with multiple gunshot wounds on the floor of a residence at 2780 W. 56th Avenue in unincorporated Adams County. He was pronounced dead at Denver Health Medical Center.

Evidence during the week-long trial showed that Wernsman and Dunnigan had exchanged insulting text messages before Wernsman showed up at the residence at about 1 a.m. on December 24, 2015, forced his way into the residence and shot Dunnigan, firing 10 rounds before he turned around and left. He was arrested later that day.

The Adams County District Court jury deliberated about five hours before returning a verdict convicting Wernsman (DOB 07/18/92) of first-degree felony murder (F1), second-degree murder (F2) and first-degree burglary with intent to commit assault (F3).

The case was prosecuted by Senior Deputy District Attorneys Patrick Freeman and Amy Petri-Beard.

“Our prosecution team did a great job on this trial,” said District Attorney Dave Young. “We are thankful that the jury came back with a just verdict in this case.”

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