



NEWS RELEASE

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Man Sentenced to 32 Years in Aurora Shooting Spree

Tyrell Tyrone Jones has been sentenced to 32 years in prison for first-degree assault for firing at Aurora police officers and two civilians last year.

Jones (DOB 04/19/86) pleaded guilty to first-degree assault and was sentenced to 32 years in prison Tuesday in Adams County District Court. He had been charged with attempted first-degree murder of two Aurora police officers, his girlfriend and a taxi driver.

The exchange of gunfire with police took place April 9, 2018, after multiple incidents of violence involving Jones that began the day before with an altercation with his girlfriend in Federal Heights. Jones fired at her during the argument and then forced her at gunpoint to drive to a 7 Eleven in Aurora. She fled, driving away while Jones, who was out of the car, fired several more rounds into the back of her vehicle.

The Aurora Police Department worked to arrange a meeting with Jones in an effort to apprehend him. Jones arrived by a taxi at a motel at 3705 Chambers Rd., where he was to meet his girlfriend, but then pulled a gun on the taxi driver and forced him to drive away from the area. The driver fled the taxi when he stopped for a red light on Chambers Road near East Smith Road. Jones fired at the driver and Aurora Officers Michael Dieck and Paul Jerothe who approached the taxi to arrest him. Officer Dieck returned fire and Jones was shot multiple times.

Officer Dieck said at the sentencing hearing that he swore an oath to protect the people and to ensure the safety of his community. He said that he and his partner treated the defendant with respect and that Officer Jerothe worked to save the defendant's life after Jones had shot at and tried to kill the officers, his girlfriend and the taxi driver.

Deputy District Attorney Ashley Wiener told the court that the taxi driver described Officers Dieck and Jerothe as "angels" that saved his life that day.

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