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Roxbury man gets life in prison for Grove Hall killing five years ago

February 12, 2020, 8:02 p.m.

A 24-year-old Roxbury man was sentenced on Friday to life in prison without the possibility of parole for gunning down an 18-year-old in Grove Hall five years ago and threatening a person who had information on the case, prosecutors said.

Darius Gibson was convicted last week of first-degree murder, unlawful possession of a firearm, and witness intimidation, according to a statement from the office of Suffolk District Attorney Daniel F. Conley.

Judge Linda Giles imposed the life sentence for the killing of Terrence Kelley and an additional sentence of five to ten years on the witness intimidation charge, the statement said. That sentence would only begin after Gibson completes another sentence on an unrelated triple shooting in Brockton.

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At the sentencing in Suffolk Superior Court, Kelley's mother recounted her son's life from his birth to his death, in a statement to the court.

"On April 26, 1993, my son was placed in my arms for the first time," she said to the courtroom, according to the statement. "He was so precious, his face so flawless, his skin so soft, and I whispered 'I love you' for the first time.

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"On May 28, 2016, I was led to a cold table where my beautiful son lay. This time his skin was not soft – only cold, very cold. And I whispered 'I love you' for the last time."

During Gibson's three-week trial, evidence showed that a witness fled to Boston police about the homicide and that Gibson threatened another witness, his former girlfriend, in an attempt to scare her into silence, prosecutors said.

On May 28, 2016, Gibson saw Kelley on Creston Street. Believing Kelley had robbed one of his acquaintances, Gibson chased him down the street and shot him six times as he fled, the district attorney's office said.

James Andrews, a friend of Gibson who witnessed the shooting, is serving a six- to eight-year sentence for being an accessory after the fact to Kelley's murder, according to Conley's office. He pleaded guilty last year.

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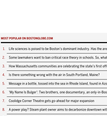
Baker announces 'FuelMilliens' lottery program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