

NEWS ADVISORY
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**AG ANNOUNCES THAT COURT OF CRIMINAL APPEALS UPHOLDS BALDWIN
COUNTY MURDER CONVICTION**

(MONTGOMERY) – Attorney General Luther Strange announced that the Alabama Court of Criminal Appeals on Friday upheld the murder conviction of Maleya McMillan. McMillan, 32, of Fairhope, was convicted in Baldwin County Circuit Court in August of 2014 for the murder of Mustafa McMillan.

Evidence presented at trial revealed that on February 25, 2009, Deborah Jiles called the Fairhope Police Department because her son Mustafa and her daughter Maleya were arguing. During the call Jiles described events to the dispatcher which escalated resulting in Maleya stabbing Mustafa in the chest. Police and an ambulance were dispatched to the residence. When police arrived they found Mustafa lifeless on the floor and the defendant standing nearby. An autopsy revealed that Mustafa had died as a result of sharp forced entry to the chest.

The case was prosecuted at trial by Baldwin County District Attorney Hallie Dixon's office. Maleya McMillan was convicted and sentenced to 20 years imprisonment. She subsequently sought to have her conviction reversed on appeal.

The Attorney General's Criminal Appeals Section handled the case during the appeals process, arguing for the Alabama Court of Criminal Appeals to affirm the conviction. The Court did so in a decision issued on Friday, October 16.

Attorney General Strange commended Assistant Attorney General Jean Therkelsen of the Attorney General's Criminal Appeals Section for her successful work in this case.

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