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PRESS RELEASE

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For Immediate Release

BOWIE MAN CONVICTED OF SECOND DEGREE MURDER IN HYATTSVILLE SHOOTING

Mourning for grandmother turns into justice right before Mother's Day.

UPPER MARLBORO, MD – A Prince George's County jury found 26-year-old Sammie Warren guilty of second-degree murder for killing Filomena Vasquez, age 56, in a shooting that occurred on January 1, 2020. Warren is scheduled to be sentenced on August 4, 2023. He is facing up to 65 years in prison.

In addition to second-degree murder, Warren was found guilty of the use of a firearm in the commission of a crime of violence and illegal possession of a regulated firearm.

On January 1, 2020, at approximately 11:30 p.m. Prince George's County police officers responded to a shooting at a residence on Varnum Street in Hyattsville. Upon arrival, they found Vasquez suffering from a gunshot wound. While first aid was rendered, the victim died at the scene. Investigators found 14 shell casings in front of the residence and apparent bullet holes in the kitchen window near where the victim was shot.

It was later established that approximately one week prior to the shooting Warren purchased a used car from the victim's son and was trying to get his money back because the car stopped working within one week of the purchase. Police were also able to establish that on the night of the shooting, the defendant was at the location of the shooting and then immediately went to Bowie where he resides.

"This is a tragic incident involving the death of a grandmother who was reading her Bible at the time of her tragic death," said State's Attorney Braveboy. "The fact that Mr. Warren was willing to show up at someone's home, discharge a weapon and take a life is a testament to his complete disregard for humanity and the law. Anyone willing to resort to violence in our county will be held responsible to the fullest extent of the law as this case clearly demonstrates."

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