



Office of the District Attorney

P. David Soares

6 Lodge Street

Albany, New York 12207

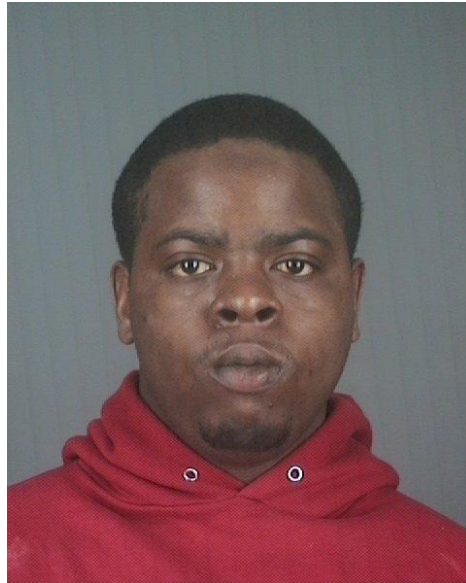
(518) 487-5460

(518) 487-5093 FAX

CONTACT: CECILIA LOGUE, (518) 275-4710

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: THURSDAY, OCTOBER 18, 2012

50 Years to Life for Elks Club Stabbing Murder



ALBANY, NY - District Attorney P. David Soares today announced that JAHTEEK STANFORD, 24, of West Street in Albany, NY, was sentenced to 50 years to Life in State Prison for the murder of Robert Smalls and assault on Ahmeen Lanier before the Honorable Thomas A. Breslin in Albany Supreme Court this morning.

On September 13, 2012, STANFORD was found guilty after a jury trial of (1) count of Murder in the Second Degree, a Class "A-1" Felony, (1) count of Attempted Murder in the Second Degree, a Class "B" Violent Felony and (1) count of Assault in the First Degree, a Class "C" Violent Felony

On February 13, 2011 at approximately 3:45 A.M. at 39 Second Street in the City of Albany, STANFORD caused the death of Robert Smalls by means of stabbing Mr. Smalls in the neck. Additionally, STANFORD attempted to cause the death of a second victim Ahmeen Lanier by stabbing him in the head.

"Jahtek Stanford is 24 years old and will never see the outside of a prison. What began as a birthday party ended with the death of a young man and a stabbing that's paralyzed another young man. This sentence must send a powerful message to other young people: Walk away! Mr. Stanford stabbed a man in the neck and stabbed another through his skull. Mr. Sanford will have plenty of time to reflect upon the lives he's damaged including his own," commented DA Soares.

Chief Assistant District Attorney David Rossi handled the prosecution of this case.

For more information please contact Cecilia Logue.

###