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NEWS RELEASE

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RICHARDSON SENTENCED

Marcus Richardson (dob: 05-17-88) was sentenced today for the January 2005 stabbing death of 17-year-old Contrell Townsend. He was sentenced by Denver District Court Judge Morris Hoffman to 7-and-a-half years in the Department of Corrections (6 years for manslaughter, 18 months for possession of a weapon on school grounds, but that sentence was suspended on the condition that Richardson successfully complete 5 years in the Youthful Offender System (4 years for manslaughter, 12 months for possession of a weapon on school grounds).

The sentence was less than half what Chief Deputy District Attorney Tom Clinton had asked for in arguing for a maximum sentence of 13 and-a-half years in prison. Family members had no comment.