



# DenverDA

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## ***NEWS RELEASE***

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### **JURY RETURNS GUILTY VERDICTS IN CLARK TRIAL**

A Denver jury has returned guilty verdicts in the murder trial of the man accused of killing Darrent Williams.

**Willie D. Clark** (dob: 05-16-83) was found guilty of two counts of first-degree murder (F1), sixteen counts of attempted first-degree murder (F2), two counts of second-degree assault (F4) and illegal discharge of a firearm (F5).

Williams was one of 17 people in a limo that was struck by gunfire at 11<sup>th</sup> and Speer early in the morning on New Year's Day, 2007. Williams was killed, two others were injured by the shots.

Clark faces life in prison without parole when he is sentenced on April 30, 2010. He will also face habitual criminal charges at that time.

Denver District Attorney Mitch Morrissey and the victim's mother, Rosalind Williams, each issued statements following the verdict –

Statement by Ms. Williams

"Today is a good day, in fact it's a really good day for myself, my family, my friends, and for my only child Darrent.

It's been a long difficult process and with today's guilty verdict I feel I can close this chapter in my life and begin the healing process and move forward.

We would like to offer our utmost gratitude and appreciation to the Denver District Attorney's Office, Federal Prosecutors, Gang Unit, Detective Martinez, Melissa Sells, the Denver Police and Sheriff's Department, Judge Habas and the 12 jurors.

At the end of the day there were no winners with today's verdict, for I will never get my son back. It is our hope and prayer that this verdict sends a message to the gangs in Denver and across America that these senseless acts of violence must stop for there are no winners."

Sincerely,  
Rosalind Williams

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#### Statement by Denver District Attorney Mitch Morrissey

"I want to express my continued condolences to the Williams family and thank Ms. Williams for her patient support throughout this process. She has experienced a tragedy and quest for justice that no mother should have to endure. She has done so with grace and quiet resolve.

I extend to the members of the jury my deepest thanks for their service. They gave of their time and energy to hear the tragic details of this case and then thoughtfully deliberated. We ask a lot of our jurors – in this case giving up three weeks of their life and being witness to the facts of a brutal, violent crime – and they accepted this responsibility with a sense of duty and honor.

I want to acknowledge the collaborative effort of this prosecution, especially recognizing the outstanding work of the Denver Police homicide detectives and the Metro Gang Task Force. I am especially thankful for the teamwork that was established within our agencies to ensure that a safe environment was maintained during this process especially the work of the Denver Sheriff Department and U.S. Marshals Service.

And finally I want to recognize our trial team and all of the staff in my office who supported the trial team's work. Chief Deputy District Attorneys Tim Twining and Bruce Levin truly do the People's work. They did an excellent job as prosecutors in this case, and I thank them for their extraordinary effort. And I thank our Victim Advocate, Melissa Sells, and our Investigator, Bob Fuller, as well. The verdict today is the result of the outstanding work by all of these people.

But, this verdict does not bring back a life that was lost. It does not erase the horror and tragedy that occurred on New Year's morning 2007. It is simply all that we can do in seeking justice for a mother who lost a son, friends who have lost a friend, a team that lost a teammate, and a community that lost a good, young soul."