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NEWS RELEASE

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BIRCH GUILTY IN '06 WITNESS MURDER

A Denver jury has returned guilty verdicts today against one of three men charged in connection with the murder of 28-year-old Kalonniann Clark in 2006.

Shun Birch (dob: 03-31-81) was found guilty late today of *first-degree murder (F1) and conspiracy to commit first degree murder (F2)*. The jury found him not guilty of first-degree burglary and felony murder.

Birch went to immediate sentencing and was given life in prison without parole plus 48 years.

Chief Deputy DA Tim Twining and Deputy DA Annmarie Spain prosecuted the case, in which the charges alleged that Birch shot and killed Clark in December 2006 to keep her from testifying in an upcoming criminal case against Brian Hicks.

Hicks was found guilty last month of one count of *first-degree murder (F1), solicitation to commit first-degree murder (F2), conspiracy to commit first-degree murder (F2), and aggravated intimidation of a victim (F3)* and was sentenced to life in prison without parole plus 120 years.

A trial date for the third co-defendant, Willie Clark, (no relation to the victim) has not yet been set.