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### **DELANEY WATT CONVICTED IN SHOOTING WHICH LEFT VICTIM PARALYZED, FACES OVER 200 YEARS IN PRISON**

Today Fond du Lac County District Attorney Eric Toney announced that a jury convicted Delaney K. Watt of 14 counts after a five day jury trial in front of the Honorable Peter L. Grimm. Watt was convicted of 13 felonies and 1 misdemeanor.

In total, Watt faces a potential maximum prison term of over 200 years of initial confinement and 70 years of extended supervision. Watt's conviction are the result of a shooting that occurred on September 12, 2018 in the City of Fond du Lac at 130 Forest Ave at approximately 10:26 p.m. Watt was convicted of firing three bullets at a group of citizens walking into an apartment complex. Two of the citizens were struck by Watt's bullets. One of the victims became paralyzed from the waste the down as a result of the injuries and other victim suffered life threatening injuries and was flown to Children's Hospital in Milwaukee for treatment. The evidence reflected that the shooting appeared drug related over a debt owed by one of the victims, which was not struck by any bullets.

District Attorney Toney stated: "This was a brazen act of violence showing no regard for human life and we will aggressively prosecute anyone that endangers the safety of those in our community. The jury's verdict sends a strong message to anyone that is thinking of committing these types of horrific crimes, you will be caught, you will be prosecuted, and you will be held be accountable."

The investigation was led by the City of Fond du Lac Police Department. Watt was probation at the time of shooting and was identified as a suspect by an anonymous source. Watt was then located in the vehicle observed leaving the scene of the shooting was taken into custody on a probation hold less than a day after the shooting. The Fond du Lac Police Department continued their investigation and their excellent work helped secure these convictions and safeguarded our community.

#### Convictions:

- 2 class D felony counts of first degree reckless injury with a dangerous weapon as a repeater;
- 4 class F felony counts of recklessly endangering safety with a dangerous weapon as a repeater;
- 2 class G felony counts of felon in possession of a firearm with a dangerous weapon as a repeater;

- 1 class F felony count of endangering safety by reckless use of a firearm with a dangerous weapon as a repeater;
- 1 class C felony count of possession of intent to deliver cocaine , greater than 40 grams, as a party to a crime, with a dangerous weapon, and as a 2<sup>nd</sup> and subsequent offender;
- 1 class H felony count of possession with intent to deliver marijuana, greater than 200 grams but less than 1,000 grams, as a party to a crime, with a dangerous weapon, and as a 2<sup>nd</sup> and subsequent offender;
- 1 class I felony count of maintaining a drug trafficking place as a party to a crime with a dangerous weapon, and as a 2<sup>nd</sup> and subsequent offender;
- 1 class I felony count of possession of marijuana as a second and subsequent offender; and
- 1 class A misdemeanor count of obstructing an officer;

Numerous counts were dismissed with the filing of an amending information during the trial to conform to the facts and evidence elicited during the trial. The jury was unable to reach a unanimous verdict regarding Attempted Homicide and instead convicted Watt of a lesser included offense, Recklessly Endangering Safety regarding Count 1. Watt was found not guilty of two counts of aggravated battery, as the State requested the jury do during closing arguments.

This case was prosecuted by District Attorney Eric Toney

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