

CLEVELAND COUNTY
21ST DISTRICT
STATE OF OKLAHOMA



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Cleveland County Jury Finds Jennifer Gerner Guilty of Murder in the Second Degree

[Cleveland County, February 9, 2024 -] A Cleveland County Jury found Jennifer Gerner guilty of Murder in the Second Degree and Harboring a Fugitive for the death of Timothy Johnson. On November 15, 2022 officers from the Oklahoma City Police Department responded to a call for Mr. Johnson who had an active felony warrant from Missouri. When officers arrived they obtained permission from Ms. Gerner to search her trailer for Mr. Johnson and when they found him he was hiding under a mattress and began to fire at the officers. Officers returned fire and Mr. Johnson died as a result.

"Had the defendant been truthful with law enforcement we would not have had the jury trial we had this week," says DA Mashburn, "The defendant knew Mr. Johnson was wanted for a warrant, she knew he had a gun, she helped to conceal him in the trailer, and she subsequently lied to the responding officers. Her imminently dangerous conduct led to Mr. Johnson's death and put the lives of the officers at risk. I am proud of ADAs John Salmon and Justin Kemp for their commitment to uphold the law and protect the citizens of Cleveland County. Thank you to the officers with the Oklahoma City Police Department who went out to do their job and ended up in this unfortunate situation. We know that officers put their lives on the line at every call they respond to."

The jury recommended 10 years for Murder in the Second Degree and 5 Years for Harboring a Fugitive. She will be sentenced on April 12, 2024.

Jury trials are a fundamental part of the criminal justice system. Our office understands that serving as a juror requires you to take time away from your job and family to assess the facts and evidence in a case to make a decision. We thank you for your time and we will update the public if any jury sentencing recommendations are changed.

We also appreciate the law enforcement officers at Oklahoma City Police Department who worked diligently on this case so we were able to try them in front of a jury and seek justice for the community.

The District 21 DA's Office serves Cleveland, Garvin, and McClain Counties under District Attorney Greg Mashburn. DA Mashburn's mission is to seek justice, protect communities, and represent those who have been victims of crime.

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