

Steve Marshall

Alabama Attorney General



Attorney General Steve Marshall Announces Court of Criminal Appeals Upholds Murder Conviction in Dallas County

(MONTGOMERY) – Attorney General Steve Marshall announced that the Alabama Court of Criminal Appeals affirmed the conviction of Raphael Marquel Clark, age 32, of Selma, for murder and abuse of a corpse. Clark was convicted in the Dallas County Circuit Court on May 13, 2021.

Around 4:00 a.m., on May 14, 2015, Raphael Clark led police to the body of Derrick Dower. Evidence showed that the victim was shot in the head at the intersection of County Road 45 and County Road 3 in Dallas County. During subsequent investigation, the victim’s DNA was found on Clark’s clothing and in a vehicle that Clark and the victim had been seen in the night before the murder. Clark had also given the murder weapon to a Selma police officer.

Dallas County District Attorney Robert H. Turner’s office successfully prosecuted this case and obtained a guilty verdict. Clark was sentenced to life in prison for his murder conviction and ten-years’ imprisonment for abuse of a corpse. Clark sought to have his convictions reversed on appeal.

The Attorney General's Criminal Appeals Division handled the case during the appeals process, arguing for the Alabama Court of Criminal Appeals to affirm Clark’s convictions. The Court did so in a decision issued Friday, March 17, 2023.

Attorney General Marshall commended Assistant Attorney General Marc A. Starrett for his successful work on this case and thanks District Attorney Robert H. Turner Jr. and his staff for their valuable assistance in defending this murder conviction.

--30--

