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Trenton Man Pleads Guilty to December 2010 Murder

TRENTON – A Trenton man under indictment for two separate homicides pleaded guilty Thursday morning to the December 2010 shooting death of Andrew Leonard, Mercer County Prosecutor Joseph L. Bocchini Jr. reported.

Phobus Sullivan, 30, of Monmouth Street, pleaded guilty before Mercer County Superior Court Judge Mark J. Fleming to a first-degree charge of aggravated manslaughter.

At approximately 9:30 p.m. on December 14, 2010, Trenton police responded to the area of 704 Greenwood Avenue on a report of a single car accident. Twenty-one-year-old Andrew Leonard was found unconscious in the overturned vehicle. Leonard was transported to Capital Health Regional Medical Center where it was determined that he had been shot.

Under the terms of the plea agreement, Sullivan will be sentenced to 20 years in prison. He will be required to serve 85 percent of that sentence before he is eligible for parole pursuant to the No Early Release Act.

Sullivan is also one of four men under indictment for the unrelated murder of Dardar Paye on January 16, 2011. Paye's body was discovered in the trunk of a car that was being driven by Sullivan.

Sullivan remains in the Mercer County Correction Center. Sentencing is scheduled for December 19. Assistant Prosecutor Skylar Weissman represented the state.

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