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Trenton Man Pleads Guilty to June 2014 Murder

TRENTON – A Trenton man pleaded guilty on Wednesday to the June 2014 shooting death of Pinky Priester, Acting Mercer County Prosecutor Angelo J. Onofri reported.

Tomarkus Whitfield, age 38, of Beatty Street, pleaded guilty before Mercer County Superior Court Peter E. Warshaw to a first-degree charge of aggravated manslaughter.

At approximately 10 p.m. on June 16, 2014, Trenton police responded to the area of 321 Centre Street for a shooting in progress. Thirty-three year old Priester was found lying in the middle of the street suffering from multiple gunshot wounds. He was transported to Capital Health Regional Medical Center where he was pronounced dead.

As part of the plea agreement, the State has recommended a prison term of 19 ½ years, 85 percent of which must be served before he is eligible for parole pursuant to the No Early Release Act.

Whitfield remains in the Mercer County Correction Center. Sentencing is scheduled for February 2, 2017. Assistant Prosecutor Michelle Gasparian represented the state.

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