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NEWS RELEASE FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Commonwealth v. Bradley Jay Brown Convicted Felon Cuts Power to Victim's Home and Shoots Her, Sentenced to 15 Years in Prison

Virginia Beach, Va. – Colin D. Stolle, Commonwealth's Attorney for the city of Virginia Beach, announced that Bradley Jay Brown, age 30, of the 3700 block of Bancroft Drive in Virginia Beach, Virginia, was sentenced today on charges of Aggravated Malicious Wounding, Burglary at Nighttime with a Deadly Weapon, Use of a Firearm in the Commission of a Felony, Possession of a Weapon/Ammunition/Explosive by a Convicted Felon, Larceny of a Firearm, Discharging a Firearm in an Occupied Dwelling- Maliciously, and Possession of Firearm by a Convicted Felon (Non-Violent) within 10 Years. Circuit Court Judge Les L. Lilley sentenced Brown to 39 years in prison with 24 years suspended, leaving fifteen (15) years to serve.

Judge Lilley found Brown guilty of these charges after a trial on May 18, 2021. The Commonwealth's evidence proved that on August 2, 2018, the victim came home to her townhouse and entered it before realizing that the lights were not working, and it was all dark. The power had been cut on the outside of the home. As she entered further into the house, she observed the silhouette of a man, Bradley Brown, who began to shoot at her with a handgun. The victim ran down the hallway and locked herself in a bathroom of the house as Brown continued firing throughout the home. The victim screamed for help and banged on the wall to alert her neighbor. A neighbor ultimately called 911. When police arrived, Brown had left the scene and the victim was evacuated from the home. The victim was struck by a bullet in her arm. The injury resulted in significant impairment through nerve damage, and she is still unable to fully utilize her arm and hand as she could prior to the shooting.

The victim identified Brown as a potential suspect. He was, at the time, married to the victim's daughter and there had been prior disagreements. Brown was stopped by police in the vicinity of the victim's home and questioned about why he was there. Police recovered numerous shell casings throughout the victim's home. Meanwhile, Brown's roommate called the police to tell them that he discovered a handgun beneath his TV stand that was not previously there. Police sent the handgun and the spent shell casings from the crime scene to the Department of Forensic Science (DFS) for analysis. DFS determined that the casings were fired from that weapon. Brown's hands were also tested for gunshot primer residue, and the lab determined that the primer residue was present on his hands.

While in the Virginia Beach Correctional Center, Brown admitted in a recorded phone call that he took the weapon and brought it to the crime scene, but claimed he was merely investigating.

Brown has a prior conviction for Attempted Burglary.

Assistant Commonwealth's Attorneys S. Mario Lorello and Nickie L. Herron prosecuted this case. Please contact Macie Allen if additional information is desired.

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