

#### Rick Staly, Sheriff FLAGLER COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

"An honor to serve, a duty to protect."

# **NEWS RELEASE**

**Date:** March 28, 2025 **Prepared by:** Joseph Bober, Public Information Office **Email:** <u>PIO@flaglersheriff.com</u> **Release #:** 2025 – 054

## CASE UPDATE #2: Accomplice to Circle K Killer Sentenced to 15 Years in Prison

BUNNELL, Fla. — On March 26, Derrius Bauer, 30, of Palm Coast, was convicted and sentenced for his role as an accomplice to Marcus Chamblin in the murder of Deon Jenkins in October 2019. Bauer's conviction marks the end of the most extensive investigation in the history of the Flagler County Sheriff's Office.

Bauer pleaded no contest to Accessory After the Fact – Capital Offense. Following Bauer's plea agreement, Judge Dawn Nichols of the Seventh Judicial Circuit sentenced him to 15 years in a Florida Department of Corrections prison, with credit for 1,540 days (or approximately four years and two months) while he was in custody at the Sheriff Perry Hall Inmate Detention Facility.



Derrius Bauer (Sheriff Perry Hall Inmate Detention Facility mugshot)

"This guy tried to thwart our investigation at every turn, but in the end it failed and he is now joining Proudly Serving the Community Since 1917 A Five Diamond Accredited Law Enforcement Agency



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his dirtbag friend in prison," said Sheriff Rick Staly. "Even after Marcus Chamblin was convicted, Bauer continued to play games, but eventually the rolling of the dice and likely spending life in prison changed his mind. I believe he finally got smart and made a better choice, because our detectives and partners built a strong case that he would have likely spent the rest of his life in prison if a jury convicted him at a trial."

Chamblin, who shot and killed Jenkins outside a Circle K gas station in Palm Coast on October 12, 2019, before fleeing the state with Bauer, was sentenced to life in prison in April 2024. A jury found him guilty of First-Degree Murder, Attempted Second-Degree Murder and Shooting into an Occupied Vehicle.

"I want to commend and thank everyone that worked on this case, from the beginning of the investigation in 2019 to securing the final conviction this week, for their dedication to serving justice for Deon and his family," Sheriff Staly added. "This was the most extensive case in the history of our agency and involved over 15 partner agencies as we pursued the killer and his accomplice across the country, but the resources and time were worth it to put these two behind bars where they belong."

Original Release Date: April 15, 2024 Original Release #: 2024 – 63.5

### **CASE UPDATE: Circle K Killer Sentenced to Life in Prison**

BUNNELL, Fla. — Today, Monday, April 15, a Flagler County Jury convicted Marcus Chamblin, 29, of First Degree Murder in connection with the killing of Deon Jenkins in October of 2019. He was also convicted of Attempted 2<sup>nd</sup> Degree Murder and Shooting into an Occupied Vehicle.

After the jury verdict, Honorable Judge Perkins sentenced Chamblin to Life in Prison for the 1<sup>st</sup> Degree Murder charge, plus an additional 30 years for the Attempted 2<sup>nd</sup> degree murder charge to run consecutive, and a consecutive 15 years for shooting in to an occupied vehicle.

"I'm thankful the jury connected all the evidence so justice was served for the victim and his family. Now this killer will have the rest of his life behind bars to regret his decision to take the life of another young man," said Sheriff Rick Staly. "In 2021, after a 15-month-long investigation, we got him and his accomplice off the streets. Thanks to the amazing team of investigators who pursued this murderer across the nation, and to the thorough prosecutors with the 7<sup>th</sup> Judicial Court, he will never get the chance to take another life again."

The trial for Chamblin's co-defendant, Derrius Bauer, who is charged with Principal to First Degree

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Murder, Principal to 2<sup>nd</sup> Degree Attempted Murder, and Principal to Shooting into an Occupied Vehicle, is set for this summer.



(Marcus Chamblin, Sheriff Perry Hall Inmate Detention Facility mugshot)

Original Release Date: January 8, 2021 Original Release #: 2021 – 004

## <u>After 15-Months, Investigation of 2019 Circle K Homicide</u> <u>Concludes with Arrest of Killer and Accomplice</u>

BUNNELL, Fla. — The Flagler County Sheriff's Office (FCSO) began investigating a homicide on October 12, 2019 when two people were shot while sitting in a vehicle at the Circle K Gas Station at Belle Terre Boulevard and Palm Coast Parkway at 3:30 in the morning. A man fired sixteen rounds from a firearm at the victims in less than four seconds before fleeing on foot.



The driver of the vehicle that had just been shot fled from the area and called 911. The passenger in Proudly Serving the Community Since 1917 A Five Diamond Accredited Law Enforcement Agency



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the vehicle, 25-year-old Deon O'Neal Jenkins, died in the car moments later before paramedics could reach him. The driver of the vehicle also sustained a gunshot wound.

This started the most extensive investigation in modern FCSO history involving more than 20 local, county, state and federal law enforcement agencies and over 2,000 investigative hours. Using numerous investigative techniques, detectives were able to trace the shooter's movements through business surveillance cameras in the area until he was picked up in a vehicle by his accomplice. The suspects then fled the state travelling to Virginia and later to California. This investigation spanned across Florida including Duval, Clay, Gulf, Miami-Dade and Putnam Counties, and to jurisdictions in Virginia, South Carolina and California.

During this 15-month long investigation detectives spent about 2,000 investigative hours on this case. In varying degrees and capacities, over 40 Flagler County Sheriff's Office employees, from patrol, to investigations, crime scene investigators, victim advocates, crime analysts, and others contributed to this successful investigation.

At the conclusion of the investigation, the shooter was identified as 26-year-old Marcus Avery Chamblin and the getaway driver as 26-year-old Derrius Braxton Bauer. On Thursday, January 7, both suspects were taken into custody.

Chamblin, the shooter, is charged with the First-Degree Murder of Deon Jenkins and the Attempted 2<sup>nd</sup> Degree Murder of a second Palm Coast man, as well as Shooting into an Occupied Vehicle. He was detained while in prison at the Gulf Correctional Facility where he was just days from being released.

Bauer, the accomplice, was charged with Principal to First Degree Murder, Principal to 2<sup>nd</sup> Degree Attempted Murder, and Principal to Shooting into an Occupied Vehicle, and was arrested in Jacksonville and booked into the Duval-Jacksonville County jail. Both men will be brought to Flagler County to face their charges and are being held under no bond.

"This case is a testament to the lengths we will go to build a strong case, examine all the evidence, and take the time to bring justice for the victim and their family," Sheriff Rick Staly said. "We'd like to thank the many agencies throughout the country that assisted with this case and I commend our entire team for bringing this difficult case to conclusion. Let this be a warning to criminals that law enforcement today knows no boundaries and we will always work with our partners, like they did for us, across the country to solve crime and arrest offenders no matter how long it takes."

Flagler County Sheriff's Office detectives were assisted in this investigation by the: the Florida Department of Law Enforcement; the Federal Bureau of Investigation's - Daytona Beach Field Office and the FBI's Newport News Field Office and the FBI's Operational Technology Division located in Quantico, Virginia; the 7<sup>th</sup> Circuit State Attorney's Office Homicide Investigations Unit; the Federal

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Bureau of Alcohol Tobacco Firearms and Explosives; the Clay County Sheriff's Office; the St. John's County Sheriff's Office; the Jacksonville Sheriff's Office; the Newport News, Virginia Police Department; the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department; the Los Angeles Police Department; the Walterboro, South Carolina Police Department; the Florida Department of Corrections; the Miami Dade Police Department; the Florida Department of Inspector General; and the Gulf County Sheriff's Office.

Video of the press conference given by Sheriff Staly and 7<sup>th</sup> Judicial Circuit State Attorney R.J. Larizza, can be viewed here: <u>Facebook</u>

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