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Clay, Duval County APD's Win Acquittals in Felony Court

Green Cove Springs, FL – A Clay County man is free of criminal charges thanks to steadfast legal defense work by the Law Offices of Public Defender Matt Shirk. Assistant Public Defender Curt Davidson and his second chair J.R. Haslett teamed up in the case *The State of Florida vs. Edward Schaub* which was tried on June 23rd. Before the jury could even consider a verdict, the Judge issued a Judgment of Acquittal (JOA) ruling after hearing what were determined as 'inconsistent statements' by the victim.

The Defendant, Mr. Schaub, faced a charge of domestic battery against his girlfriend stemming from an alleged altercation back in January 2010. Both were said to be intoxicated and began arguing; Mrs. Schaub claimed she was attacked and was threatened to be 'fed to the neighbor's pit-bull.' Once in trial, she retracted her story on the witness stand and told the Judge and jury that nothing happened during the alleged domestic dispute. APD Davidson promptly made a motion for a JOA which was granted.

"A wrongful conviction of simply one person is an injustice to us all as Americans," said Fourth Judicial Circuit Public Defender Matt Shirk. "I applaud the abilities of APD's Davidson and Haslett in our Clay County office for insuring that our clients receive the fair trials that they deserve. In the case against Mr. Schaub, the truth was revealed and our client was freed. In this case, the system provided justice."



In Duval County, APD Jason Snyder (pictured, left) went to trial on June 30th defending Eric Bryant, who was charged with *aggravated assault with a firearm* and *discharging a firearm from a vehicle*. Mr. Bryant faced a maximum of 60 years in prison if convicted. Last May, following a Memorial Day party, gunshots were heard outside of Mr. Bryant's ex-girlfriend's residence. The two had broken up a few days prior when Mr. Bryant discovered she had been cheating and moved out of the house, much to his ex's dissatisfaction. Conveniently, his ex-girlfriend as well as her cousin accused Mr. Bryant of firing the shots. APD Snyder convinced the jury that the charges were little more than an ex-girlfriend's retribution for a relationship gone bad. The jury deliberated for 45 minutes before returning "not guilty" verdicts on all counts.
