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Rare Not Guilty Verdict in Clay County Felony Trial

Green Cove Springs, FL: The Law Offices of Public Defender Matt Shirk continue to provide quality, effective legal representation to indigent-accused clients in Clay, Duval and Nassau Counties. A recent trial in Clay County concluded in a Not Guilty verdict for the PD client, a rare outcome in a criminal trial here.



The State vs. Davis Muniz came to verdict on September 21st. Lead defense attorney, Assistant Public Defender Mark Wright (pictured) represented Mr. Muniz on several criminal charges, including; attempted home invasion robbery with a hood/mask, aggravated assault with a firearm while wearing a hood/mask, possession of a firearm by a convicted felon and possession of ammunition by a felon. APD J.R. Haslett assisted Wright.

The client was arrested back in February following an incident at a home in Green Cove Springs. Mr. Muniz's neighbor said an armed and masked man entered his house and demanded money. When the suspect was told nobody had any money to give, he was addressed as Mr. Muniz, fired a silver gun at the ceiling and left on foot. The alleged victim called the police and accused Mr. Muniz as being the suspect because he believed he recognized his voice. Police obtained a warrant and went next door to Mr. Muniz's house where they found several magazines of bullets, but found no guns.

In the trial, APD Wright brought forth the defense that police arrested the wrong guy because Mr. Muniz had no motive. Additionally, he did not own a gun that fit the description of the one used at the crime scene. To support this assertion, one eyewitness testified that the suspect was carrying a silver gun. No firearm was found in Mr. Muniz's possession and the bullets at his house were only usable in one brand of gun which does not even offer a silver model. The jury found Mr. Muniz guilty only of possession of ammunition by a convicted felon; all other charges were dropped.
