

ILLINOIS STATE POLICE NEWS RELEASE

Brendan F. Kelly - Director

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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<u>ILLINOIS STATE POLICE INVESTIGATION LEADS TO</u> <u>CONVICTION OF CASINO QUEEN SHOOTER</u>

BELLEVILLE – After an extensive Illinois State Police (ISP) investigation spanning several years, 48-year-old Daryl S. Muhammad of Marietta, Georgia was convicted for a shooting and armed robbery that occurred at the Casino Queen in 2017. On November 25, 2024, after a weeklong trial, Muhammad was found guilty of Armed Robbery (Class X Felony), Aggravated Battery with a firearm (Class X Felony), and Unlawful Possession of a Weapon by a Felon (Class 2 Felony).

"The defendant's egregious actions show a complete lack of respect for life and the law," said ISP Director Brendan F. Kelly. "It does not matter how much time has passed, ISP will continue to pursue justice and hold those who break the law accountable."

On September 17, 2017, at approximately 2:55 a.m., three men armed with rifles entered the Casino Queen. During the robbery, an unarmed security guard was shot and over \$47,000 was taken. ISP conducted a thorough investigation that led agents to Muhammad in Cobb County, Georgia. In January of 2019, Muhammad was charged and arrested.

"I want to thank the dedicated members of the Illinois State Police and supporting agencies for all of their work that allowed us to obtain this just verdict," said St. Clair County State's Attorney James Gomric. "I also want to thank the United States Attorney's Office for the Southern District of Illinois for their assistance in the investigation and prosecution. Finally, I want to thank Assistant United States Attorney John Trippi, who served as a Special Assistant State's Attorney, and Assistant State's Attorney Alex Starnes for their tireless work in bringing Mr. Muhammad to justice."

