



MICHAEL C. O'MALLEY
CUYAHOGA COUNTY PROSECUTOR

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Friday, November 03, 2023

James Sparks Henderson III Plead Guilty, Sentenced to Five Life Sentences without Possibility of Parole

CLEVELAND – Cuyahoga County Prosecutor Michael C. O'Malley announced that James Sparks Henderson III pleaded guilty for the murder of five persons and the attempted murder of a 9-year-old girl and 3-year-old boy. Judge John P. O'Donnell sentenced Henderson to five consecutive life terms of incarceration without the possibility of parole.

Statement from Prosecutor O'Malley

If there was ever a crime that screams for the death penalty, it is this one. This defendant murdered five individuals, including a pregnant mother and her unborn baby, and the attempted to murder a 9-year-old and a 3-year-old. For these crimes, it is my opinion that he deserves the death penalty. Unfortunately, my predecessor signed a contract with this defendant agreeing not to seek the death penalty if he confessed to his crimes. This Office, unfortunately, is now bound by this ill-advised agreement.

Our hearts and prayers go out to the victims and the families of the victims of this horrific crime.

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