



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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Press Release

Brasfield guilty of manslaughter In 2016 Stoughton stabbing

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October 27, 2017:

A Norfolk Superior Court jury required less than a day of deliberation to convict Keenan D. Brasfield, 26, of voluntary manslaughter in the fatal 2016 stabbing of Erwins Albert outside a Stoughton residence.

A Norfolk County Grand Jury had indicted Brasfield of murder in the May 2016 incident outside 89 Canton Street in Stoughton, where Brasfield's car had just been towed after being on a commercial tow lot a short distance away.

The case went to trial beginning October 17. The jury heard testimony that the victim had gone into Brasfield's car mistakenly believing that his own keys may have been in that vehicle when it was moved from the tow yard, which precipitated an altercation between the two men. At the end of the altercation, Brasfield produced a knife and stabbed Mr. Albert, then left the area.

"The jury had a lot of testimony to absorb and assimilate. We believed that there was an interpretation of the facts that might have led the jury to find Brasfield's conduct to constitute murder," Norfolk District Attorney Michael W. Morrissey said after the verdict was read about 1 p.m. "We respect the jury's manslaughter verdict and thank them for their service."

Norfolk County Superior Court Judge Peter B. Krupp set sentencing for 2 p.m. on November 2, 2017. The maximum penalty for manslaughter is 20 years in state prison. The case was tried by Assistant District Attorney Carolyn Hely with the assistance of Victim/Witness Advocates Beth Dobrutsky and Erika Connolly.

"The Stoughton Police and Chief Donna McNamara were excellent partners with our State Police detective unit responding to this case, leading to an arrest warrant within hours of the homicide," District Attorney Morrissey said.