



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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Press Release

Mississippi men admit to 2017 Braintree killing

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Two Mississippi men have admitted to killing Reina Rodriguez at the Braintree Hyatt Place Hotel on June 22, 2017, according to Norfolk District Attorney Michael W. Morrissey.

Kenyonte Galmore, 27, entered a plea of guilty to the charge of Manslaughter and was sentenced to 18-20 years in State Prison by Norfolk Superior Court Judge Beverly Cannone.

Kentavious Coleman, 25, also entered a plea of guilty to the charge of Manslaughter and was sentenced to 7 years in State Prison.

Both men were originally indicted for murder, unarmed robbery, kidnapping and conspiracy.

"We agreed to allow these men to plead to the charge of Manslaughter based on factors including the strength and state of the available evidence," District Attorney Morrissey said after Judge Cannone had accepted both pleas. "If Galmore had been convicted of second degree murder, he would have been parole-eligible after 15 years. In this structured plea, he will serve a minimum of 18 years. Securing homicide convictions via plea eclipses any chance of either man them avoiding culpability through acquittal. It also precludes the case being turned on appeal – and gives some finality to the family."

The case against Juana Rivera, 24, who was alleged to have recruited Rodriguez into a life of prostitution and then set her up to be robbed the night she was killed, remains pending in Norfolk Superior Court.

District Attorney Morrissey praised Assistant District Attorneys Lisa Beatty and Pamela Alford, Victim/Witness Advocate Beth Dobrutzky, Braintree detective Charles Paris and State Police Trooper Jeffrey Kotkowski for their years of work on the case, the Braintree Police for their partnership in the investigation, and the State Police detectives who worked to solve this case and track the men to Mississippi.