

Teen handed 14-year prison term in slaying

The 15-year-old victim, who was in a house, was not the intended target, authorities say.

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A teenager was sentenced Tuesday to 14 years in prison for fatally shooting another youth in Tulsa.

Dominique D. Jones, now 18, pleaded guilty to second-degree murder in the slaying of Kordero Coleman, 15.

Coleman was shot in the head and buttocks while in a house in the 4300 block of North Elgin Avenue on Jan. 4, 2009, police said.

He died the next day.

He was visiting the residence and was not the intended target, investigators

have said.

Jones had been charged with first-degree murder.

Tulsa County prosecutors agreed to reduce the charge to second-degree status in accordance with a plea agreement accepted by District Judge William Kellough.

This was "a very difficult case to prove," said Assistant District Attorney Jack Thorp.

Jones must serve 85 percent of his 14-year prison term before becoming eligible for parole or release.

He has spent about a year in jail and receives credit for that time already served.

Prosecutors maintained that Jones and co-defendant Kevon Silmon were gang members and that gang rivals had been at the Elgin Avenue residence.

Investigators found 12 spent cartridge casings outside the house.

In a court document filed in November, a prosecutor wrote that Coleman was "not a member or associated with

any gang" but was an innocent bystander.

At a March preliminary

hearing, Special Judge Allen Klein declined to order Jones held for trial on a first-degree murder charge.

The District Attorney's Office challenged that decision in an appeal to District Judge Clancy Smith, who reviewed the evidence and a transcript of testimony from the hearing and sent the case back to Klein with instructions to bind Jones over for trial.

Silmon, 21, is in jail and is still charged with first-degree murder.

He testified as a prosecution witness at Jones' preliminary hearing.

Silmon previously said he drove a vehicle, with Jones as a passenger, to the area of the shooting, according to police.

He said he heard gunshots after Jones ran toward the residence and that he saw Jones run back and get into the vehicle with a gun, a police affidavit states.

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