



# BUTTE COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY



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## PRESS RELEASE

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### **Chico Man Sentenced in 2017 Robbery-Homicide**

A final resolution in a five-year-old murder case was had today with the sentencing of a Chico man in Butte County Superior Court.

Jason Jackson, 26, Chico, was sentenced for the murder he committed in 2017 of a developmentally disabled man in Chico over a cell phone.

Butte County District Attorney Mike Ramsey said the charges stem from the October 1, 2017 shooting in the 900 block of West Fourth Avenue, near North Cedar Street in Chico.

Ramsey said at approximately 9:30 p.m. that day, victim Travis Robertson, had been sitting on the curb looking at his phone, when Jackson and his female companion Michaela Norman, 24, approached Mr. Robertson. Jackson demanded Mr. Robertson hand over his phone, but Mr. Robertson did not respond. Jackson then shot the victim multiple times in his head and torso. Evidence showed the victim was also shot in the back at least once, indicating he had tried to flee but was unsuccessful. Mr. Robertson was pronounced dead at the scene. There was never any evidence that the two men knew each other.

Mr. Robertson was 32 years old and left behind a wife and three children.

Ramsey stated that after the murder, Jackson and Norman ran back to the SUV they had been riding in. Norman got in the driver's seat and Jackson in the front passenger seat before driving away. Shortly after the shooting, Chico Police Department received numerous 911 calls. A Chico police officer spotted the SUV and ultimately stopped it in the area of Cohasset Road and Manzanita Avenue. Police detained Norman, Jackson, and a third passenger, who had been in the backseat of the SUV.

Officers located Mr. Robertson's cell phone in the center console. Officers also located a revolver in the front passenger seat floorboard area, where Jackson had been seated. The .22 caliber revolver contained nine cartridges, eight of which had been fired.

Ramsey said this defendant had switched defense attorneys and undergone two proceedings to evaluate his mental competency, which along with COVID delays, caused multiple delays in the criminal court proceedings. Ultimately, doctors said that Jackson was malingering, and criminal proceedings were reinstated.

On October 26, Jackson pled to the second-degree murder of Travis Robertson. Today, the judge sentenced Jackson to life in state prison, with a minimum eligibility for parole of 15 years.

