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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

July 14, 2020

ELKTON TEEN SENTENCED TO 12 YEARS FOR ASSAULT

ELKTON – On Monday, July 13, 2020, the Honorable William Davis, Jr. of the Cecil County Circuit Court sentenced Marquis Benson (age 18) of Elkton, Maryland, to a total of 12 years in the Division of Correction. Benson was found guilty of assaulting a North East man in August of 2019. Judge Davis also placed Benson on 5 years of supervised probation and ordered him to pay the sum of \$22,100.00 to the victim for restitution.

On August 23, 2019, Benson and several co-defendants drove to the Lakeside Trailer Park in a stolen vehicle. Once there, Benson and the other occupants of the vehicle accosted the victim, who they did not know. During the altercation, Benson stabbed the victim in the back with a knife as the victim was attempting to flee. The victim was subsequently taken to the hospital, where medical personnel were able to save his life. After the assault, Benson and his co-defendants were subsequently stopped and arrested by a combined effort of the Maryland State Police, the Cecil County Sheriff's Office, and the Elkton Police Department.

At sentencing, Nathaniel Bowen, Assistant State's Attorney, asked the court to impose a total sentence of 20 years, suspending all but 12 years to serve, which Judge Davis adopted. State Sentencing Guidelines recommended 5-12 years of active incarceration. The State recommended a sentence at the top of the Sentencing Guidelines in response to the serious nature of the crime. The Maryland General Assembly created the Maryland State Commission on Criminal Sentencing Policy in 1999 which created the Maryland Sentencing Guidelines.