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Etheridge Convicted In Rap Club Shooting

Prosecutor Kym L. Worthy issued charges on April 14, 2006 in connection with an April 11, 2006, shooting that occurred in the early morning hours at the C.C.C. nightclub located at 15304 East 8 Mile Road near Hayes in the City of Detroit. The shooting resulted in the death of well-known rapper Proof AKA Deshaun Holton, 32, of Detroit.

Mario Etheridge, 28, of Detroit was charged with Carrying A Concealed Weapon, MCL 750.227, a felony with a maximum penalty of 5 years in prison. He was also charged with Discharge of a Firearm in a Dwelling or Occupied Structure, MCL 750.234b, a felony with a maximum penalty of 4 years in prison.

Today, Mr. Etheridge was found guilty as charged on all counts after a three-day jury trial presided over by Judge Vera Massey Jones. Elizabeth J. Walker, Wayne County Deputy Chief of the Special Prosecutions Unit, prosecuted the case.

Ms. Walker said, "No one can calm a violent situation down by introducing a weapon. Today's verdict proves this. Sadly, there are still two dead people and that is tragic."

The sentence hearing will take place on October 17, 2006, at 9:00 a.m. before Judge Vera Massey Jones in Wayne County 3rd Circuit Courtroom, G-2 in Detroit, Michigan.

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