

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS – PLYMOUTH DISTRICT
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PRESS RELEASE

**For Immediate Release:
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Superior Court- Commonwealth vs. Paulo Tavares

BROCKTON, MA- Plymouth County District Attorney Timothy J. Cruz today announced that Paulo Tavares, (DOB: of 2-14-86) was convicted yesterday of Murder in the First Degree, Armed Assault with Intent to Murder and Unlawful Possession of a Firearm for the May 21, 2007 homicide of John Lima. The defendant was found guilty after a five day jury trial in Brockton Superior Court.

The Commonwealth presented evidence that Paulo Tavares and an unidentified co-conspirator fired at least fourteen rounds of ammunition from two different guns into a vehicle that John Lima was operating near 1380 Main Street in the city of Brockton. Three of those rounds struck and killed Mr. Lima. Paulo Tavares ultimately sold one of the murder weapons, a 22 caliber semi automatic Walter pistol, during a controlled buy, to an individual who was cooperating with the Brockton and State Police.

The case was investigated by the State Police Detectives assigned to the Plymouth County District Attorney's office and the Brockton Police Detectives. The case was tried before Superior Court Judge Charles J. Hely. Following the verdict, the defendant was sentenced to life in prison without the possibility of parole. The case was prosecuted by Assistant District Attorneys Karen O'Sullivan and Jessica Healy.

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