

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS – PLYMOUTH DISTRICT  
OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY



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**PRESS RELEASE**

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**Superior Court- Commonwealth v. Laurence Bynum-Harris**

**BROCKTON, MA-** Plymouth County District Attorney Timothy J. Cruz today announced that Laurence Bynum-Harris, (DOB: 1-11-87) of Brockton was convicted today of First-Degree Murder for the 8/12/07 homicide of Claudio Montrond. The defendant was found guilty after a five day jury trial in Brockton Superior Court.

The Commonwealth presented evidence that Bynum-Harris lured Claudio Montrond to the rear of the Brockton Area Transit parking garage to have a conversation. There, Bynum-Harris stabbed Montrond with a sculpting tool nineteen times and struck him in the head with a hammer ten times. Bynum-Harris then stripped Montrond of his pants and underwear, leaving him to die alone. Montrond's body was discovered shortly thereafter. After an intense investigation, police located Bynum-Harris the next morning. Bynum-Harris met with investigators and told them that he murdered Montrond because he was afraid that Montrond would break up with him. At trial, Bynum-Harris claimed he suffered from a personality disorder.

The case was investigated by Detective Jackie Congdon of the Brockton Police Department and Trooper Daniel Harrington of the Massachusetts State Police Detectives assigned to the Plymouth District Attorney's Office.

The case was tried before Superior Court Judge Barbara Dortch-Okara. Following the verdict, the defendant was sentenced to life in prison without the possibility of parole.

Claudio Montrond was a twenty-year old man who had been working in the IT department of a financial firm in Boston and was a student at UMass Boston.

The case was prosecuted by ADA Lewis A. Armistead, Jr. and ADA Matthew J. Libby.

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