



Lafourche Parish District Attorney's Office

IN THE NEWS

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THIBODAUX – One of two men involved in a shootout at a Thibodaux Mardi Gras parade last January pled guilty to three charges arising from his involvement on the eve of his scheduled Jury trial.

Quincy Johnson, 34, pled guilty Tuesday afternoon to attempted second degree murder, possession of a firearm by a convicted felon and reckless discharge of a firearm at a parade. Both Johnson and his co-defendant, Ryan Harris, were set for felony trials this week. Harris pled not guilty, and his jury trial has proceeded as scheduled.

"I cannot stress how reckless and dangerous this defendant's conduct was," said District Attorney Camille A. Morvant, II after Johnson pled guilty. "It's amazing that only the two perpetrators were injured."

Johnson and Harris, both of Napoleonville, were alleged to have been involved in an altercation earlier on Sunday, January 31, 2016, when the Krewes of Shaka and Ambrosia were scheduled to parade in Thibodaux. Harris allegedly approached Johnson on the parade route near the intersection of Jackson and Canal and shot him. Johnson returned fire, striking Harris. Both were quickly apprehended by Thibodaux Police Department personnel. Harris was found to be wearing a ballistic vest, which stopped one of the bullets.

Assistant District Attorney Jason Chatagnier, who has handled the prosecution of both Johnson and Harris, said he was satisfied with the plea. "We can't tolerate two individuals settling their disputes with handguns," he said. "What makes this worse is that it happened in such close proximity to so many innocent people who had no idea of the danger they were in until the shots rang out."

On the charge of attempted second degree murder, Johnson was sentenced to serve 15 years in prison. He received a 20 year sentence for possessing a firearm as a convicted

felon, and 15 years for reckless discharge of a firearm at a parade. The three sentences are to be served concurrently. The sentences were imposed by the Hon. Walter I. Lanier, III, who is also presiding over the Harris trial this week.