

January 25, 2011

Queens man sentenced to life without parole for 2008 Commack homicide

A Queens man convicted last month of first degree murder was sentenced today in Suffolk County court in Riverhead to life in prison without parole.

Donovan Raysor, 23, of St. Albans, was one of four people convicted in the murder for hire plot. The jury found him guilty of the murder charge and second degree conspiracy. Suffolk County District Attorney Thomas Spota said the people recommended the maximum sentence.

“This victim was executed in a parking lot leaving a widow and four young daughters,” Spota said. “His conspirators also received the maximum punishment the law allows”. Attorney James DiMartino, 44, of Nesconset, was shot and killed on Oct. 20, 2008, outside a restaurant on Jericho Turnpike in Commack.

Raysor’s codefendants Darnell Festus, 25, of Queens, and Ronald Thornton, 40, of Nesconset, are currently serving life sentences in upstate prisons following their first-degree murder convictions at trial last year.

Thornton concocted the plot and hired Festus and Raysor to kill DiMartino for \$8,000. Thornton feared DiMartino, his business partner, would connect him to a series of fraudulent mortgage deals.



SCDA Communications • HAUPPAUGE NY 11788

TELEPHONE (631) 853-4118

Robert.Clifford@suffolkcountyny.gov

Every defendant is presumed innocent, unless and until found guilty beyond a reasonable doubt following a trial at which the defendant has all of the trial rights guaranteed by the U.S. Constitution and federal law.