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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**Brooklyn Man Convicted Of Murder For Shooting Death
Of 15-Year-Old Playing Basketball in Flatlands Schoolyard**

Defendant Also Convicted of First-Degree Assault For Shooting 13-Year-Old

Brooklyn District Attorney Ken Thompson today announced that a 20-year-old man has been convicted of second-degree murder, first-degree assault and second-degree criminal possession of a weapon for the 2011 shooting of a 15-year-old boy and a 13-year-old boy in the schoolyard of Public School 119 in Flatlands.

District Attorney Thompson said, "This defendant made a terrible decision when he put his hands on a gun and shot two innocent kids who were simply enjoying a beautiful Saturday evening. He has now been held accountable and will likely spend the better part of his own life behind bars."

The District Attorney identified the defendant as Vincent Adeyeye, 20, of Brooklyn. The defendant was convicted yesterday of one count of second-degree murder, one count of first-degree assault and one count of second-degree criminal possession of a weapon following a jury trial before Brooklyn Supreme Court Justice Vincent Del Giudice, who set sentencing for March 5, 2015. The defendant faces 25 years to life in prison on the top count.

The District Attorney said that, according to trial testimony, on July 16, 2011, at approximately 7 p.m., at Public School 119, which is located at East 39th Street and Avenue K, in Flatlands, the defendant, who was 16-years-old at the time and a member of the Bloods gang, fired numerous shots into a crowded schoolyard and struck two innocent bystanders. The shooting was allegedly in retaliation for a shooting the night before.

The District Attorney said that, according to trial testimony, Dequan Mercurius, 15, who was playing basketball, suffered a fatal gunshot wound to the left side of his torso. A 13-year-old boy, who had just purchased an ice cream from a Mr. Softee truck, was shot once in the buttocks and once in the foot, and survived.

The District Attorney further said that, according to trial testimony, the defendant was arrested in October 2012 after his DNA was matched to a firearm left at the scene of the shooting.

The case was investigated by Detective Patrick Henn of the New York City Police Department's Brooklyn South Homicide Squad and Detective Daniel Callow, formerly of the NYPD's 63rd Precinct Detective Squad and presently assigned to the Brooklyn South Nightwatch.

The case was prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Janet Gleeson, Deputy Chief of the District Attorney's School Advocacy Bureau, and Assistant District Attorney Yvette Creightney, under the supervision of Assistant District Attorney Coleen D. Babb, Bureau Chief.

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