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Bond granted Augusta man in homicide case

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Published 12:49 p.m. ET April 24, 2020

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Augusta Chronicle

An Augusta man charged with murder was granted bond Friday.

It was a classic case of felony murder, Assistant District Attorney Jarryd Brown said Friday about what happened the night 20-year-old Ryan Lovette was fatally shot and a second man was wounded in a home on Lumpkin Road on Oct. 19.

Montrez T. Scott, 20, was charged earlier this month with murder in Lovette's death. Richmond County Sheriff investigators also charged a second man, Artez S. Grubbs, 17, with murder.

During Scott's bond hearing, Brown said Scott, Grubbs and the victim intended to rob Dontavious Cooper that night. Lovette pulled a gun inside Cooper's home and shots were fired during a struggle over it, Brown said. A neighbor coming to Cooper's defense shot Lovette and Cooper.

The Augusta Chronicle

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But defense attorney Keith Johnson read a sworn statement by Cooper in which he said that Scott had nothing to do with the shooting. Cooper said he was with Scott in the living room and Lovette was with his cousin in another room when he heard his cousin call out as he struggled with Lovette for control of the gun. Scott ran from the scene, as the neighbor came in and fired his own weapon.

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Scott, a 2018 high school graduate who was working before his arrest, turned himself into the sheriff after learning of the warrants, his attorney said.

Judge John Flythe set a \$100,000 bond for Scott. He is not allowed to contact his co-defendant, Grubbs, or any witness in the case.

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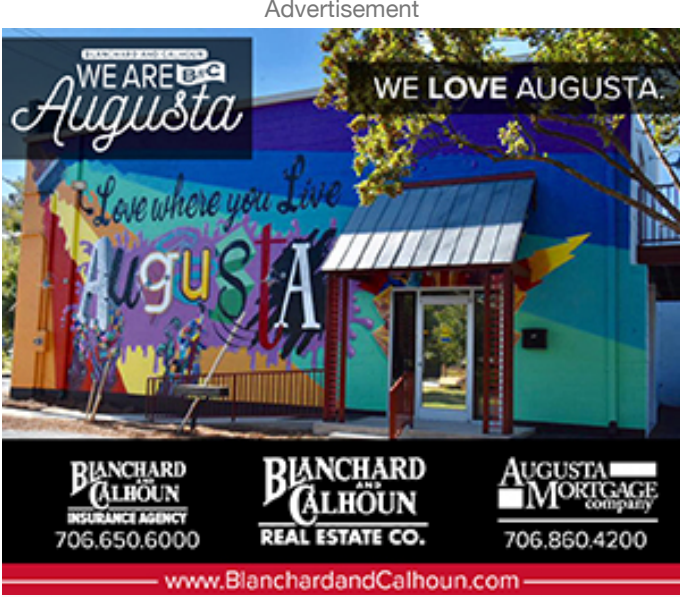
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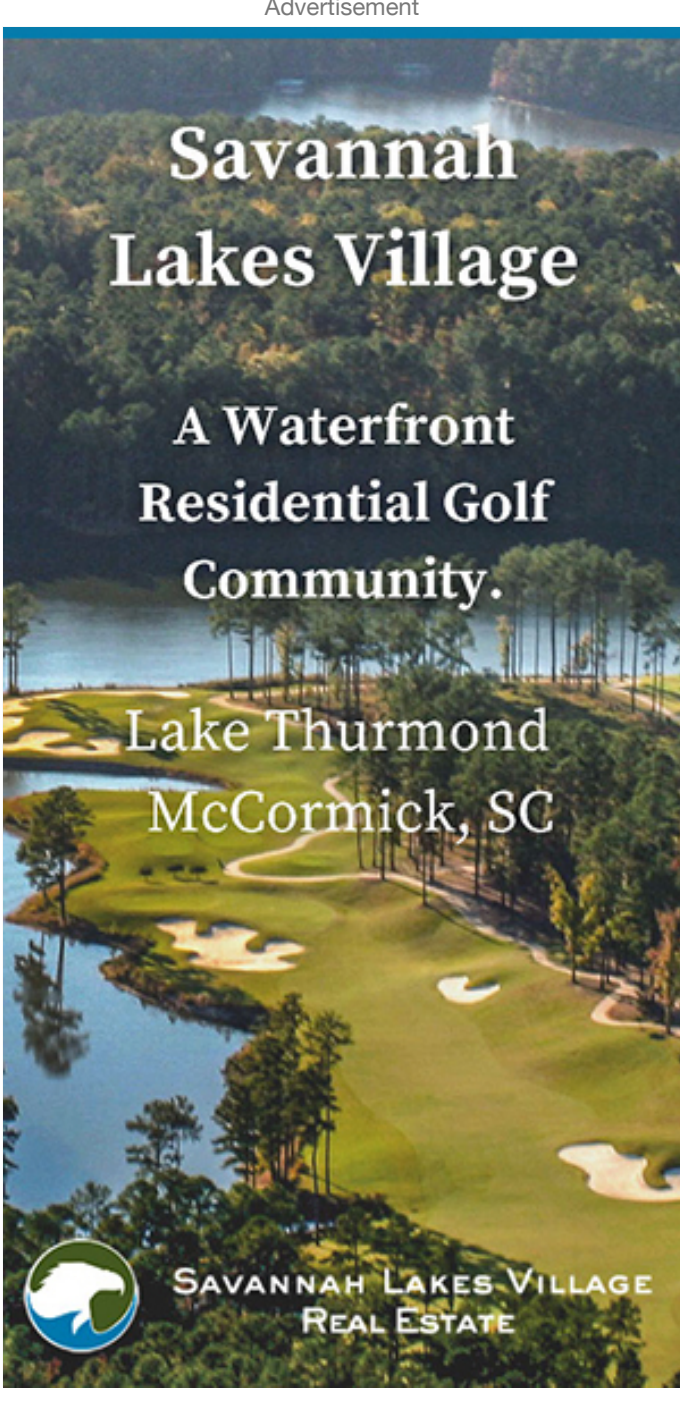
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