

COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA



OFFICE OF THE COMMONWEALTH'S ATTORNEY CITY OF PORTSMOUTH



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MEDIA RELEASE

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Portsmouth, VA

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TALAYSIA S. NELSON CONVICTED OF INVOLUNTARY MANSLAUGHTER AND FELONY CHILD ABUSE/NEGLECT

PORTSMOUTH, VA – After a five-day jury trial (June 5-9, 2023,) the defendant, Talaysia S. Nelson, was found guilty of involuntary manslaughter and felony child abuse/neglect.

Based on legislative changes, post July 1, 2021, defendants have a right to select a jury sentencing or to be sentenced by the judge of the circuit court, who presided over the jury trial. In this instance, the defendant, Talaysia S. Nelson, opted to be sentenced by the judge of the circuit court, who presided over the jury trial.

The defendant will return for sentencing by the court on August 28, 2023. An update will be provided after sentencing. The trial team consisted of Senior Assistant Commonwealth's Attorney Haille Hogfeldt and Assistant Commonwealth's Attorney Camden Freeman.

“We are proud to have fought alongside the rest of our team for justice in this case on behalf of a young and innocent victim who suffered and had his life cut far too short. It is with the utmost gravity that we take our duty to be a voice on behalf of a child whom we lost long before he had a chance to make his own voice heard. We are grateful for the service of the jurors and applaud the verdict they rendered today. It is our privilege to serve the Portsmouth community in pursuit of justice and safety, particularly for our most vulnerable members.”

- Senior ACA Haille Hogfeldt and ACA Camden Freeman

“It is my responsibility to be a voice for the voiceless, and our office was successful today in our advocacy. This young victim should still be here with us today. Our office is grateful to the jurors who performed a vital service to our Portsmouth community this week. Our team works diligently to seek justice for victims of violent crime every single day and I am proud of the commitment Senior ACA Hogfeldt and ACA Freeman have consistently displayed in the handling of this matter.

- Stephanie N. Morales, Commonwealth's Attorney

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