

Pierce Street murder case ends in conviction

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Mario Antwane Scott didn't beat up Daniel Keith Jackson just once. He came back two more times to kick, pummel and beat the Lynchburg man to death with a vacuum cleaner last June, a prosecutor said Tuesday.

Scott, 23, of Lynchburg was convicted Tuesday of second-degree murder and sentenced to 21 years in prison. He entered an Alford plea, which is where a defendant doesn't admit guilt, but acknowledges that there is enough evidence to convict him.

The plea and sentence were part

of an agreement reached with prosecutors. Scott was scheduled to face a jury trial on the charge of first-degree murder March 15.

"He's been a thorn in the side of Lynchburg police

and prosecutors for years," Deputy Commonwealth's Attorney Chuck Felmlee said after the hearing. "Lynchburg is definitely safer with him being off the street."

The incident happened in the early-morning hours of June 9, Felmlee told Lynchburg Circuit Judge Mosby Perrow, when



Scott

Jackson, 39, threw a birthday party for himself at his 1013 Pierce St. home.

Scott asked Jackson to hold his handgun for him while he left the party for a short time. When Scott returned, he learned that Jackson had given his handgun to someone else, Felmlee said.

"This enraged the defendant and he punched a hole in the wall," Felmlee said.

Codefendant Carlton Hunter, 22, of Rustburg, then kicked Jackson in the chest and punched him the jaw, he said.

After that, Scott began repeatedly kicking and punching him in the head, Felmlee said.

Other people at the party then

pushed Scott and Hunter out the door, but Scott kicked the door so hard he broke the hinge and came back in, Felmlee said.

That's when Scott took a vacuum cleaner from the front porch and began beating Jackson as he lay face down on the floor, Felmlee said.

Again, Scott was forced out of the residence, but he returned for a third time and again, assaulted Jackson.

"When (police) arrived at 1:36 a.m., Jackson was still alive. He was making a gurgling noise and was taken to the hospital," Felmlee said.

Jackson died a few hours later. Scott and Hunter were charged and arrested several days later at a

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