



DISTRICT ATTORNEY FOR THE 15TH JUDICIAL COURT SERVING ACADIA, LAFAYETTE & VERMILION PARISHES

Assistant District Attorney Michele Billeaud obtained a unanimous jury conviction of Kyle Toups on February 19, 2016 for the negligent homicide of Michael "Luke" Darby. Detective Jared Istre of the Lafayette Police Department was the lead detective.

Toups stabbed Michael Luke Darby shortly before 2:00 a.m. on October 14, 2012 on East Vermilion Street after Darby allegedly threatened Toups' brother.

Toups' attorneys filed documents alleging that Darby was high on drugs and alcohol and was acting aggressively. And, those attorneys alleged that they found video of Darby attacking someone else prior to the attack on the Toups brothers, and that Lafayette Police failed to preserve the evidence.

Prosecutors argued that the incident happened during a fist fight. Toups originally was booked with second-degree murder, but a grand jury indicted him on the negligent homicide charge.

The negligent homicide charge carries a possible sentence of up to five years in prison and a fine of up to \$5,000.