

EDITOR'S PICK

## Man gets 10 years for shooting teen outside Spotsylvania party

Keith Epps

Feb 26, 2018

**A** young Spotsylvania County man who shot a teenager last year because he didn't like a social media posting was ordered Monday to serve 10 years in prison.

Kendall Javon Brown, 19, was sentenced in Spotsylvania Circuit Court to a total of 23 years with 13 years suspended. He was previously convicted of malicious wounding and using a firearm in the commission of a felony.

Judge Joseph Ellis' sentence exceeded the recommended state sentencing guidelines, which called for a maximum penalty of six years and a month.

Brown shot a 15-year-old boy on April 15 following a party at the Lee Hill Community Center. The boy was shot in the abdomen with a .22-caliber weapon and had emergency surgery due to internal bleeding.

There was significant damage to his liver, spleen and colon and the bullet just missed his heart, court records state.

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According to the evidence presented by prosecutor Crystal Montague-Holland, Brown was a member of the street gang Hustle Nation and, according to his social media pages, was the "shooter and enforcer" for the group. He confronted the teen that night because he felt the boy had shown disrespect by wearing red and posing with a picture of the boy's father's gun on social media.

Brown actually fired two shots, court records state, but one of them missed. A group of about 60 people were still present when deputies arrived that night, but the victim was gone. Some of his friends had driven him home.

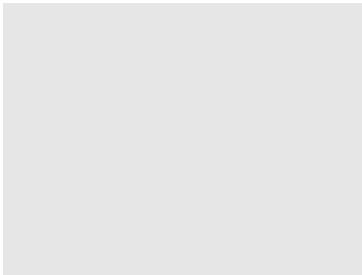
Deputies went to the boy's home on Cornell Drive and found medical workers treating the victim. He told police that someone named "Kino" shot him because he wouldn't give the shooter his belt.

The boy later identified Brown from a photo lineup as the person he knew as "Kino."

Brown was brought to the Spotsylvania Sheriff's Office a couple of days later and admitted shooting "the kid," but said it had nothing to do with a belt. He said the boy should not have been "flashing stuff" on social media.

Brown also claimed that after he and the teen "squared up" outside the party, the boy reached behind his back. He said he thought the boy was reaching for a gun, but that he was faster. He admitted in the interview that neither he nor anyone else saw the boy with a gun.

Brown was represented by attorney Rebecca Favret.



Brown

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