



# Genesee County Prosecutor's Office

## David Leyton, Prosecutor



### Jury Convicts Man in Flint Twp. Nightclub Murder

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**FLINT** – Genesee County Prosecutor David Leyton said that today's second-degree murder conviction of Chantantus Franklin, 21, of Flint, is another example of the "thug ethos" that is taking hold among some of our young people today.

Jurors convicted Franklin of second-degree murder, two counts of assault with intent to murder, and several weapons charges in the May shooting death of Akil J. Goodman, 24, in the parking lot of a Flint Township nightclub. Two other people were also shot and injured in the incident.

Leyton said that testimony from trial and the police investigation indicated that a large fight had broken out inside the Beach House Bar and Grille and bouncers began kicking people out in the early morning hours of May 5, 2006. As a large crowd of bar patrons gathered outside the entrance, Franklin and another man, Defan D. Pringle, 24, of Flint, began shooting into the crowd with guns, killing Goodman and injuring two other men. Pringle, who testified in the trial against Franklin, had pled earlier to voluntary manslaughter and carrying a concealed weapon.

"The violent mentality of some of the youth in our community and in cities across America is that which we might expect to see played out on the big screen, not on our streets and in our neighborhoods" said Leyton. "But the thug ethos out there in some pockets of our community has changed the modern landscape. When some of these young people feel that they've been disrespected or slighted in the least, their response is to react violently, with fatal consequences," remarked Leyton.

"Chantantus Franklin acted out as a thug in shooting and killing Mr. Goodman. But today, justice was served when a jury of his peers held him responsible for his actions. The thug ethos has got to change or we are going to see many more victims and many more lives lost far too soon," concluded Leyton.

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