

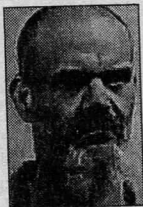
Jury finds Slocomb man guilty of murder

BY MATT ELOFSON

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A jury found a Slocomb man guilty of murder on Thursday in less than 20 minutes.

Geneva County District



Adkison

Attorney Kirke Adams said the jury returned with the guilty verdict against 41-year-old

Shawn Lee Adkison. He faces 10 to 99 years or life in prison when he is sentenced at a later date.

Adkison was one of two people indicted on felony murder charges in connection with the death of 41-year-old Debbie Ayres. The trial against Adkison started earlier this week in Geneva.

A similar felony murder charge remains pending against Christopher Edward Finley, 45, of Do-

than. His case was also scheduled for trial this week, but it was delayed.

Authorities originally arrested Finley and Adkison in October 2014. State police investigators initially only charged Finley with murder and filed a felony hindering prosecution charge against Adkison. Deputies with the Geneva County Sheriff's Office assisted in making the arrests.

Geneva County Sheriff Tony Helms told the *Dothan Eagle* earlier that the charges stemmed from a Geneva County missing person investigation. The victim's body was found in October 2014 on property off U.S. 84 West in the Wicksburg community.

Helms said Ayres was found buried in 3 to 4 feet of dirt in the woods just past County Road 9 in Wicksburg. Helms said Ayres lived in the Black community of Geneva County.