

# McKinney Death...from Page 1A

behind bars, with the remaining to be served on probation. He will be subject to a \$2,605 fine and 240 hours of community service, per court documents.

Neither Havard nor Chamaty are to have any contact with Franklin, who survived the shooting, or the immediate relatives of either Franklin or McKinney. They must also refrain from contacting their co-defendants in the case.

Both defendants have been sentenced under the Youthful Offender Act meant for "any male offender who is at least 17 but less than 25 years of age at the time of conviction and who in the opinion of the department has the potential and desire for rehabilitation."

Other conditions of their probation are that each must "provide verification of evaluation and/or treatment for substance abuse" and obtain a high school diploma, GED or vocational training certificate.

Remaining defendants in the case are Stephan Blake Dickey aka Dye, Hunter Nicholas Hill and Dalton Levi Manuel, all of Morganton, whose cases are still pending with the following charges:

Malice murder, felony murder, criminal attempt to commit malice murder, criminal attempt to commit armed robbery, five counts of aggravated assault, aggravated battery, two counts of home invasion in the first degree, burglary in the first degree, and violation of the Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organizations Act, commonly referred to as the RICO Act.

Additionally, Dickey, Hill and Manuel, who were all juveniles at the time of their alleged crimes, were each charged with possession of a firearm during

the commission of a felony.

They pleaded not guilty to the charges against them on April 25, 2019.

A fourth juvenile – Lakota Ricky Cloer – was also arrested in the case, and he pleaded guilty in January 2019 to two counts of aggravated assault and one count of criminal attempt to commit a felony.

Cloer will serve 15 years in confinement as part of his plea agreement, and he, Havard and Chamaty have agreed to cooperate in the cases against the remaining defendants if called upon to do so by the state.

As previously reported, the tragedy that unfolded that dark night in December appears to have been a case of planned murder for drugs, according to court documents.

On Dec. 3, 2018, the evening before McKinney's death, all six individuals implicated in the case were gathered at Cloer's residence and were present for a conversation in which Dickey, Hill, Manuel and Cloer allegedly agreed to rob and kill McKinney for marijuana and pills, according to court documents.

The four juveniles then traveled in Cloer's truck to McKinney's residence, and Dickey, Hill and Manuel got out, after which Cloer drove a short distance away to be ready to act as a getaway driver once the deed was done, according to court documents.

It was after midnight when Dickey, Hill and Manuel allegedly entered McKinney's home, according to court documents.

Once inside, Dickey reportedly killed McKinney by shooting him in the back of the head with a .410 shotgun, while Manuel allegedly shot

McKinney's girlfriend, Anna Franklin, in the arm and neck with a .25 caliber handgun, according to court documents.

"Although Defendants committed the acts in furtherance of the conspiracy with the intent to take marijuana and pills, Defendants forgot to take the marijuana and pills when they left the residence," according to court documents.

Cloer remained nearby in the getaway truck, though the vehicle ran out of gas as he waited, according to court documents.

He called Havard and Chamaty for assistance, who allegedly brought fuel for the truck "knowing that said fuel would be used to accomplish the cover-up phase of the conspiracy by transporting Defendants Dickey, Hill and Manuel away from the crime scene."

Eventually, all of the accused made it out of the area that morning, allegedly meeting back up at Cloer's house.

There, Cloer attempted to remove the serial number from the gun used to shoot Franklin, and later that day, he, Chamaty and Havard allegedly traveled to Lake Nottely to toss the .25 caliber handgun into the lake "with the intent of concealing and disguising" the weapon from law enforcement.

Two weeks later, agents with the Georgia Bureau of Investigation and other state law enforcement officials spent Monday, Dec. 17, and part of Tuesday, Dec. 18, searching an area of Lake Nottely known as the Cliffs for evidence in the murder case, according to the GBI.

Dickey, Hill and Manuel have been charged only and are innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.

## Veteran's Day "Vittles For Vets"



Calling all Union County Veterans. On Wednesday, November 11, 2020, from 4 – 7 PM, the Blairsville American Legion Auxiliary Unit 121, with support from all of the Veteran's Service Organizations, will be serving a drive-thru Veteran's dinner at the Leon Davenport Veteran Center which is located at the corner of

Hwy. 515 and Old Blue Ridge Hwy. in the grey building (the old chamber of Commerce).

Veterans are invited to put on their best patriotic shirt and hat, and come get dinner on us. The menu is Italian baked casserole, green beans, salad and dessert.

Please follow the signage when you arrive in order to be directed to the curbside pickup location.

There will be limited dining on site for those who care to eat in. Masks and social distancing will be observed as much as possible.

For more information about the event please contact American Legion Auxiliary President/Chaplain Janice Walters-Taylor at 706-745-1854.

## Bell Ringing Union County Old Courthouse



**October 1, 2020**

In memory of **Bill Meeks**

on his birthday

by Terry and Ginger Meeks

**October 15, 2020**

In memory of

**John Nix**

by Union County

Historical Society

**October 22, 2020**

In memory of

**John J. Meeks**

on his birthday

By Terry and Ginger Meeks

**October 27, 2020**

In Loving Memory of

**Ricky Rivas**

We miss you,

Mom and Dad

**October 27, 2020**

In memory of

**Chef Dave Drake**

by Union County

Historical Society

**October 28, 2020**

In memory of

**George Stewart**

10th Anniversary

of his death

By Jim & Joyce Cumbie

**Bell ringing information**

**at 706-745-5493**