

# Layvonnia Jackson Sentenced In National Forest Murder Case

By David Howell, Editor, North MS Herald

COFFEEVILLE — A Coffeeville woman who helped lure an Arkansas teenager to his death in a remote section of the Holly Springs National Forest has been sentenced in Yalobusha County Circuit Court.

Layvonnia Alicia Jackson was sentenced March 19, 2026, before Circuit Judge Jimmy McClure after previously entering a guilty plea in the case.

According to court records, Jackson was sentenced to 20 years in the custody of the Mississippi Department of Corrections after pleading guilty to second-degree murder.

In a separate sentencing order, Jackson also pleaded guilty to conspiracy to commit murder and received a suspended sentence with 20 years of post-release supervision.

That supervision includes five years of reporting supervision and 15 years of non-reporting supervision, according to the order.

Jackson was also ordered to pay court costs and fines, including a \$1,000 fine and additional statutory assessments.

Jackson had entered her guilty plea Feb. 19. As part of the plea proceedings, court filings indicate she agreed to testify “completely and truthfully” against any co-defendant who proceeded to trial.

Bralin Jackson and Brandon Jackson both entered guilty pleas later, on March 5, during proceedings held in Tate County before Judge McClure.

Her sentence mirrors those previously handed down to co-defendants Bralin Jack-

son and Brandon Jackson, who each received 20-year prison terms on the murder charge along with 20 years of post-release supervision on conspiracy charges.

Prosecutors said the killing was planned after Bralin Jackson discovered that his wife, Layvonnia Jackson, had been involved in a sexual relationship with Wilson.

According to the factual basis presented in earlier court proceedings, Wilson was lured from Arkansas to Mississippi. Layvonnia Jackson picked him up in West Memphis, and the two were seen together on surveillance video before traveling into north Mississippi.

Prosecutors said Bralin Jackson, Brandon Jackson and Devin Smith were waiting in a remote area of the Holly Springs National Forest in Yalobusha County.

When the vehicle arrived, Wilson was pulled from the vehicle and shot multiple times.

Wilson’s body was discovered March 8, 2023, approximately 30 yards off County Road 243 between Coffeeville and Oakland.

Within days of the discovery, four Coffeeville residents — Layvonnia Jackson, Bralin Jackson, Brandon Jackson and Devin Smith — were arrested and charged with first-degree murder and conspiracy to commit murder.

Court records show the case against Devin Smith remains pending and has involved multiple mental-health evaluations.

The Yalobusha County Board of Supervisors is accepting applications for a:

## Part-Time EMA Deputy Director

The Job Description is on file at the Yalobusha County Chancery Clerk’s office in the Water Valley courthouse.

Applications for this position can be obtained in the Chancery Clerk’s office in the Water Valley Courthouse. All applications must be received by 9:00 a.m. in Monday, April 6, 2026.



### CARROLL COUNTY WILDFIRE #UPDATES

7:45 PM 3.29.26 Carroll County Wildfire Update:

Mississippi Forestry Commission tells North Mississippi Storm Chasers that the fire is now 70% contain, and has burned 4,246 acres. Carroll County volunteer firefighters are providing protection for a nearby house on CR 144.

Containment efforts are being significantly complicated by terrain and debris. The fire is burning through areas impacted by both the recent ice storm and older damage from the Rolling Fork tornado. That tornado path remains visible on satellite imagery. In addition, the area includes deep gullies, some reaching up to 100 feet, making access and line construction difficult.

11:25 A.M. 3.29.26

According to the Mississippi Forestry Commission, the fire remains only 40% contained, having burned 4,200 acres.

Remember, this fire is in an area where a lot of ice storms occurred and old tornado damage is located.

North Mississippi Storm Chasers & Spotters

Although this fire is not in Yalobusha County it is close to home and a reminder that it only takes a second for it to get away from you. Our county is much like Carroll County with all of the storm debris and the extreme dry conditions. Forecast for later in the week calls for rain but even after the rains the dangerous will still be there. Be cautious if you burn and do not hesitate to call for help.

