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### **JURY FINDS MINCEY GUILTY OF ILLEGALLY POSSESSING FIREARMS, OTHER CRIMES**

State Attorney Melissa Nelson announces today that Tavares Mincey, of Jacksonville, was found guilty by a jury of Possession of a Firearm by a Convicted Felon, Affray, and Breach of the Peace. Mincey, a habitual felony offender, now faces a maximum of 30 years in Florida State Prison. A sentencing hearing is to be set before the Honorable Meredith Charbula the week of Oct. 4, 2021.

At just after 8 p.m. May 16, 2020, members of the Jacksonville Sheriff's Office were dispersing a block party near the 3500 block of Wilson Street in Northwest Jacksonville. Officers observed the driver of a white sedan exit the vehicle and run into the crowd that had been ordered to disperse. The driver, Mincey, then began throwing punches at another male, according to officers on scene. Mincey was detained as he attempted to return to his vehicle. A review of the car he had been driving minutes before revealed a black handgun with a loaded drum magazine in plain sight on the driver's side floorboard. The gun had previously been reported stolen in 2013. Further investigation revealed a second firearm on the backseat of the back passenger side of the vehicle. Mincey, a previously convicted felon, is ineligible to possess a firearm.

The case was investigated by the Jacksonville Sheriff's Office and was prosecuted by Assistant State Attorneys Marcus Isom and Ashleigh Brooks.