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Arlington man sentenced to 12 years in prison for 2021 school shooting

(Fort Worth, TX) – On Monday, a Tarrant County jury sentenced Timothy Simpkins to 12 years in prison – and a \$6,000 fine – after finding him guilty of attempted capital murder in the Mansfield Timberview High School shooting on October 6, 2021.

That day, Simpkins went to his first class at school. When classmate Zaccaeus "Zac" Selby, then 15, walked in, he started to fight Simpkins. Cellphone video captured Simpkins being beaten by Selby.

Teachers broke up the fight and, seconds later, Simpkins pulled out a gun and shot Selby. Students began running away and Simpkins continued shooting, hitting English teacher Calvin Pettit in the back, piercing his lung. The bullet lodged near Pettit's heart.

A school security camera showed Selby and others rushing out of the classroom. Simpkins followed, firing into the hallway, grazing a female student in the hip. There he found Selby, who fell and was crawling away. Simpkins continued shooting, striking him a total of three times. Selby, who was shot in the abdomen, arm, and leg, survived.

Simpkins then left the school; the .45-caliber Glock he used was found at his sister's apartment.

Tarrant County Assistant District Attorney Lloyd Whelchel told the jury that the Timberview shooting was retribution for an earlier robbery, during which Simpkins claimed he was pistol-whipped. Simpkins was seen on video at a RaceTrac gas station shooting at a vehicle driving away.

He carried a loaded gun with him to school the entire week of October 6, 2021.

"We take school shootings seriously," said Whelchel, who prosecuted the case with Rose Anna Salinas. "That should not be the norm of our society."

Salinas described Simpkins, now 19, as "a cold-blooded killer" who went on a shooting spree on October 6, 2021.

"He discharged that weapon six times," she said. "Every time he discharged it, it was intentional."

CDA Investigators Caleb Blank, Ben Lopez and Danny Nutt, as well as Victim Advocate Laura Flores, also worked on this case.