

The State Supreme Court has upheld a death sentence against a Moore County Man convicted of brutally murdering four people during a robbery. The justices ruled that 43-year-old Marion Phillips received a fair trial and deserves to die for his role in the December 2003 slayings at a Carthage mobile home. The court determined that Phillip's borderline intellectual capacity and emotional disturbance at the time were irrelevant. Two others participated in the crime. Sean Ray, now 31, is serving a life sentence without parole. Renee McLaughlin now 27, is serving a minimum of 12 years. Only one person survived the onslaught. Amanda Varner who, like the others, was shot and stabbed numerous times but lived and managed to crawl away from the mobile home which had been set on fire. Phillips remains on death row at Central Prison in Raleigh.