

[Click here to print](#)

MailOnline

NOT GUILTY: America erupts as jury finds George Zimmerman innocent of the murder and manslaughter of unarmed 17-year-old Trayvon Martin in the race case that has divided a nation

- Jury took just over 16 hours to come to not guilty verdict
- Twitter users calls neighborhood watch volunteer 'dead man walking'
- Case was not about race or right to bear arms, prosecutor says
- Zimmerman said to be worried about reaction to verdict
- Angry protests outside courthouse as case ends
- 'I thought he was guilty' prosecutor Rionda says
- Immunity will be sought if attempt to sue Zimmerman is made

By [Rachel Quigley](#), [Jessica Jerreat](#) and [James Nye](#)

PUBLISHED: 21:00 EST, 13 July 2013 | **UPDATED:** 10:00 EST, 14 July 2013



139 shares

[158](#)

[View comments](#)

In a sensational verdict, George Zimmerman was last night found not guilty of second-degree murder and manslaughter in the shooting death of teenager Trayvon Martin.

The ecstatic 29-year-old broke out into a smile of visible relief after he heard the verdict on the case that has bitterly divided the nation, after the jury of six women took more than 16 hours and 20 minutes over two days to reach their conclusion.

They unanimously decided the neighborhood watch volunteer and would-be cop justifiably killed the unarmed teen because he believed his life was threatened on that February night in Florida last year.

As the judge announced that Zimmerman had no other business with the Seminole court just after 10 p.m. on Saturday, his mother, who was sat in the court, beamed a smile for the first time during the trial and his emotional wife broke down in tears.

Zimmerman jubilantly embraced both - realizing that after a year and a half of living as a hermit and virtual recluse - he was now a free man.

Trayvon's parents, Tracy Martin and Sybrina Fulton, were not in court to hear the verdict. They later took to Twitter to acknowledge their heartfelt disappointment at the verdict.



Relief: George Zimmerman breaks into a smile of relief a few moments after being cleared of all charges



©Reuters

Relief: George Zimmerman's wife, Shellie, celebrates with family and friends following her husband's not guilty verdict



Emotional scenes: Zimmerman's family and legal team celebrate after the verdict was

read out



Not guilty: George Zimmerman listens as the judge records the not guilty verdict in his murder trial

WATCH VIDEO HERE:

[Dramatic moment jury acquits George Zimmerman of Trayvon Martin...](#)



A tweet from his father read: 'God blessed Me & Sybrina with Tray and even in his death I know my baby proud of the FIGHT we along with all of you put up for him GOD BLESS'

As the long-awaited verdict drew near, police and city leaders in the Orlando suburb of Sanford and other parts of the U.S. nervously said they were taking precautions against the possibility of mass protests or unrest.

'There is no party in this case who wants to see any violence,' Seminole County Sheriff Don Eslinger said immediately after jurors began deliberating. 'We have an expectation upon this announcement that our community will continue to act peacefully.'

Angry crowds outside the courthouse spoke about their outrage at the verdict, yelling 'The system has failed us', and tens of thousands took to Twitter to voice their discontent with the justice system and jury.

Despite calls for calm from Trayvon's parents and legal officials moments after the verdict was read out, people unleashed their fury on Twitter and described Zimmerman as 'a dead man walking'.

His legal team said the verdict had not sunk in for him yet, and that Zimmerman was worried about the reaction from

the nation and for his future.

Defense attorney Mark O'Mara said that Zimmerman and his wife, Shellie, had been living 'like a hermit' and were not working because they feared for their safety.

Zimmerman is said to be in hiding and wears a bullet proof vest when outside, according to the [New York Times](#).

Defense attorney Mark O Mara said: '[Zimmerman] has to be cautious and protective of his safety because there is a fringe element who have said on Twitter and elsewhere they want revenge.'

He added that after everyone left the room at the end of the trial, Zimmerman thanked his defense teams and then became very emotional as he realized the trial was done.

WATCH VIDEO HERE:

Prosecution and defense teams react to Zimmerman's not guilty



Relief: George Zimmerman's family celebrate as the jury clear him of all charges



Freed: The defence team shake George Zimmerman's hand after he is found not guilty



Grief: Trayvon's parents Sybrina Fulton and Tracy Martin were not in court for the verdict

Martin family disappointed by Zimmerman acquittal



'I'm not sure how you can feel after 16 months of trauma. It's probably going to settle on him tonight when he is with his family and realizes he doesn't have to come back to court,' Mr O Mara said.

Robert Zimmerman Jr. said his brother was 'going to be looking around his shoulder for the rest of his life'.

'Now the jury has spoken, and we are exonerated as a family,' he told [CNN](#). 'And more importantly, George is exonerated.'

Benjamin Crump, the attorney for the Martin family, acknowledged the disappointment of Trayvon's supporters, as he ranked the teenager alongside civil rights heroes Medgar Evers and Emmett Till in the history of the fight for equal justice.

Despite this racially charged language he urged them not to resort to violence. 'For Trayvon to rest in peace, we must all be peaceful,' he said.

It took the jury five weeks to see more than 200 pieces of evidence and hear 56 witnesses in a trial that has gripped the nation, the jury heard two very different accounts of what happened on that fateful rainy night of February 26, 2012.

They had been given the chance to convict Zimmerman of manslaughter but did not do so, despite asking for a clarification of the charge earlier in the evening.

After the verdict, prosecutor Bernie de la Rionda said he was disappointed but respected the jury's decision.

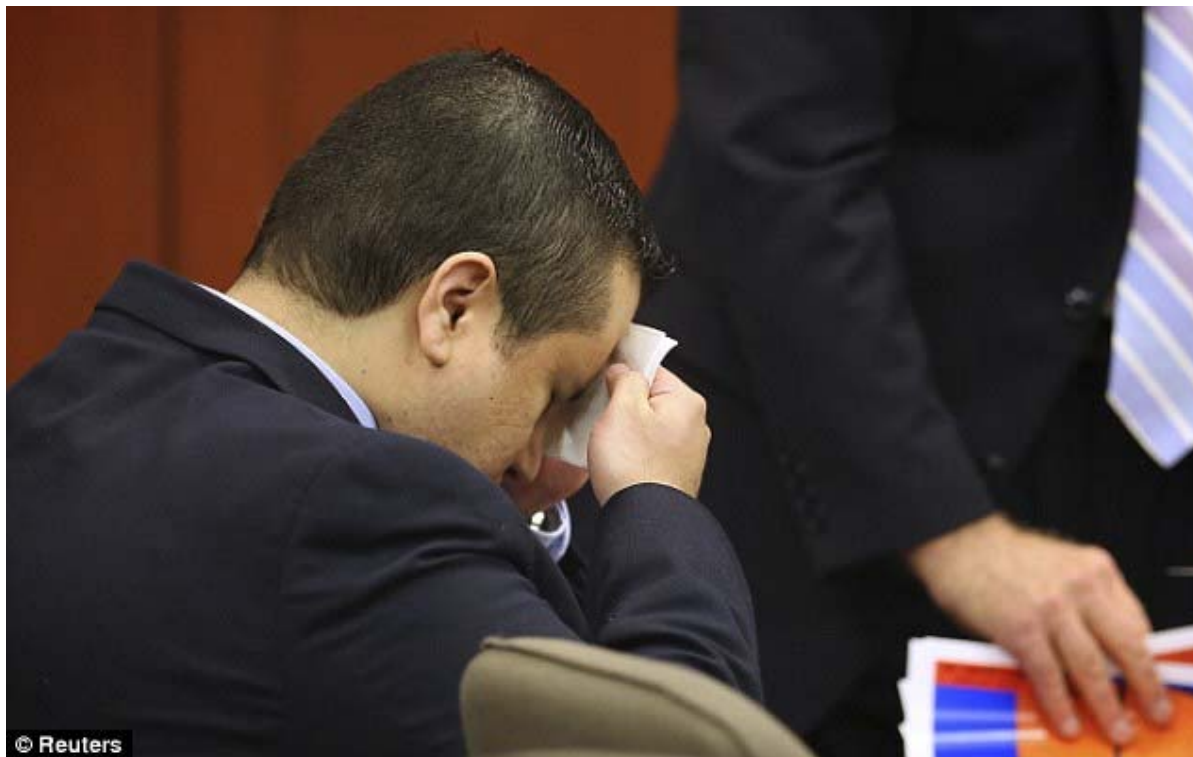
'We respect the verdict but I'm disappointed. This is only the second murder case I lost. I thought he was guilty,' he told a press conference.



Emotional: Trayvon's parents Tracy Martin and Sybrina Fulton on day 20 of the trial into their son's shooting



Victim: Trayvon Martin was shot and killed on February 26, 2012, as he was walking back from the 7/11 with a packet of Skittles and a can of juice



© Reuters

Pressure: George Zimmerman wipes perspiration from his face after arriving in the courtroom for his trial in Seminole circuit court in Sanford, Florida July 12, 2013



© Reuters

Tense: Assistant state attorney John Guy, left, responds to defense attorney Don West, right, after another angry exchange of words over evidence



Opposite sides: Defense counsel Mark O'Mara, left, talks to prosecutor Bernie de la Rionda, right. Both men gave the closing arguments in Zimmerman's trial

Florida State Attorney Angela Corey added that they had wanted to 'get all the facts before the jury because we felt everyone had the right to know everything'.

'To the living we owe respect, to the dead the truth. We believe we have brought out the truth.'

She added: 'This case has never been about race or the right to bear arms. But there is no doubt Trayvon was profiled to be a criminal.'

Ms Corey added after the verdict that she believed second-degree murder was the appropriate charge because Zimmerman's mindset 'fit the bill of second-degree murder'.

'We charged what we believed we could prove,' Ms Corey said.

Ultimately, it was the defense team who won. They praised the jury, who Mr O Mara said 'listened, took notes [and were] as engaged as everyone in the process'.

'We are ecstatic with the results. George Zimmerman was not guilty of anything except protecting himself in self defense,' he added after the verdict.

He said that they would seek immunity if someone decided to try to sue Zimmerman.



Shock: A Florida woman cries as she hears the not guilty verdict verdict outside the court house



Defense: Don West and Mike O Mara praise the jury for being so engaged with the case



Joy: Gladys Zimmerman, centre, smiles broadly as she learns that her son has been acquitted

Don West, who was criticized for his opening Knock Knock joke and photos of him on Twitter eating ice cream with his daughters during a break early on in the trial said he would not respond to his critics or talk about the alleged threats made against his family.

'This trial is about George Zimmerman, not about ice creams,' he said. 'I still think the joke was funny but I wish I'd told it better.'

A Timeline of the Case that Divided America: The Trial of George Zimmerman for the Murder of

Trayvon Martin

February 26th, 2012 - George Zimmerman, a neighborhood watch captain in Sanford, Florida, calls 911 to make a report of 'a suspicious person'.

He is told by officers not to leave his vehicle but disregards this. Moments later residents report hearing a gunshot and police arrive to find Trayvon Martin dead.

Zimmerman tells police that he shot Martin in self-defense - is not arrested - and this noted in the police report.

February 27th, 2012 - Trayvon Martin's father, Tracy Martin, files a missing persons report when his son fails to return home.

Officers with the Sanford Police Department go to the Martin household and inform Tracy that his son is believed dead - Martin identifies Trayvon Martin's body.

March 8th, 2012 - Police investigators receive a fax from the Altamonte Family Practice that contains medical records identifying George Zimmerman's injuries sustained on the evening of the shooting.

They acknowledge a scalp wound, a nasal wound and describe 'assault by other means'.

March 12th, 2012 - Sanford Police Chief Bill Lee explains that Zimmerman has not been charged because to date no evidence has been provided to prove his claims contrary.

March 13th, 2012 - Sanford Police Department's homicide detective Christopher Serino says that he recommends that Zimmerman be charged with manslaughter. He says that Zimmerman 'failed to identify himself' as a neighborhood watch member on two occasions that night.

He says he believed Zimmerman's injuries to be 'marginally consistent with a life-threatening episode, as described by him, during which neither a deadly weapon nor deadly force were deployed by Trayvon Martin.'

March 14th, 2012 - The case is turned over to Florida State Attorney Norm Wilfinger

March 15th, 2012 - George Zimmerman's father, Robert Zimmerman, writes a letter to the Orlando Sentinel in which he explains that his son is Hispanic and is being erroneously portrayed as a racist.

March 19th, 2012 - The Justice Department and the FBI announce they have launched an investigation into the death of Trayvon Martin

March 22nd, 2012 - A petition calling for the arrest of Zimmerman, created by Trayvon Martin's parents, garners more than 1.3 million online signatures.

March 22nd, 2012 - Sanford Police Chief Bill Lee says he is to stand down 'temporarily' as head of the department.

March 23rd, 2012 - President Barack Obama makes a public announcement on the death to say that the incident requires 'soul searching'

March 24th, 2012 - Some members of the New Black Panther Party, offer a \$10,000 reward for the 'capture' of George Zimmerman

March 28th, 2012 - Zimmerman's father appears on television to say that his son was forced to shoot Martin after being badly beaten by the teen

April 11th, 2012 - Zimmerman is charged with second-degree murder and his new lawyer, Mark O'Mara announces that Zimmerman has handed himself over to the authorities

April 20th, 2012 - During his bond hearing, Zimmerman apologizes to Trayvon Martin's family for the loss of their son and his bail is set at \$150,000

June 1st, 2012 - Judge Kenneth Lester Jr. orders Zimmerman to surrender after his bail is revoked after the prosecution shows that Zimmerman and his wife Shellie misrepresented their finances when the bond was originally set in April

June 3rd, 2012 - George Zimmerman is taken into custody at the John E. Polk Correctional Facility in Seminole

County

June 12, 2012 - George Zimmerman's wife Shellie is arrested and charged with perjury

July 5th, 2012 - Zimmerman's bond is set at \$1 million and the next day he is released after posting 10 percent of the bond

July 18th, 2012 - George Zimmerman appears on Sean Hannity's Fox News program to deny any wrong doing

March 18th, 2013 - Mark O'Mara opts not to seek a pretrial Stand your Ground immunity hearing for George Zimmerman

April 30th, 2013 - Zimmerman decides to waive his right to a Stand your Ground hearing and opts to go for a self-defense trial

June 20th, 2013 - An all-female jury is selected

June 24th, 2013 - The trial begins

July 11th and 12th - The State and Defense give their closing arguments

July 13th - A not-guilty verdict for George Zimmerman is announced

Mr O Mara said: 'Nothing can bring back Trayvon Martin. Whenever a young life is lost it is a tragedy' adding that he extended his sympathy to the teenager's family.

He added however: 'None of [the evidence] shows George Zimmerman as an aggressor.'

The prosecution had started the case with a powerful and graphic opening statement and it was in this vein they proceeded with their case.



© George Zimmerman's Defense Attorneys

Footage: CCTV footage shows Trayvon buying Skittles and a soda at a 7/11



Evidence: A shirt worn by Zimmerman on the night of the shooting was used as evidence in the trial





Injuries: Photos of cuts to the back of Zimmerman's head and his face were included in the evidence



Fatal mark: A bullet hole can be seen in the front of the hooded top Trayvon was wearing on the night he died



Crime scene: Trayvon was shot outside with Florida complex

Zimmerman wasn't arrested for 44 days after the February 26, 2012, shooting as police in Sanford insisted that Florida's Stand Your Ground law on self-defense prohibited them from bringing charges. Florida gives people wide latitude to use deadly force if they fear death or bodily harm.

Trayvon's parents, along with civil rights leaders such as the Rev Jesse Jackson and Rev Al Sharpton, argued that Zimmerman, whose father is white and whose mother is Hispanic, had racially profiled their son.

They also accused investigators of dragging their feet because Trayvon was a black teenager.

Before a special prosecutor assigned to the case ordered Zimmerman's arrest, thousands of protesters gathered in Sanford, Miami, New York and elsewhere. President Obama also added to the case, saying that if he had a son, 'he'd look like Trayvon'.

The Rev Al Sharpton continued to campaign after the verdict, saying: 'The acquittal of George Zimmerman is a slap in the face to the American people but it is only the first round in the pursuit of justice.'

According to AP, he added: 'We intend to ask the Department of Justice to move forward as they did in the Rodney King case and we will closely monitor the civil case against Mr. Zimmerman. I will convene an emergency call with preachers tonight to discuss next steps and I intend to head to Florida in the next few days.'



Ruling: Judge Debra Nelson hands the verdict to the court clerk



Response: State attorney Angela Corey and assistant state attorney Bernie de la Rionda give their view on the verdict



Reenactment: The jury had been shown a video of Zimmerman explaining his version of events



Despair: Supporters of Trayvon Martin say the verdict is a slap in the face for the American people

The race element could become the legacy of the trial. Atlanta mayor Kasim Reed responded to the verdict by saying: 'The death of Trayvon Martin shows that we must all work harder to shed the dangerous stereotypes that can have devastating consequences for individuals, families and our society.'

Celebrities from Will.i.am to Miley Cyrus also took to Twitter to announce their shock at the verdict.

Will.i.am tweeted: 'What's wrong with the world mama!!! #whereIsTheLOVE #zimmermanVSamerica.'

Sophia Bush added: 'The wind is more than knocked out of me... My heart aches for this boy's family. Justice System? I don't think so,' and Miley Cyrus tweeted to say the verdict made her 'feel sick'.

Others, including Wyclef Jean and Mandy Moore extended their sympathies to Trayvon's family and friends. A tweet from Jesse Williams however, read: 'Verdict emblematic of a culture rooted in bloodthirsty cowardice.'



Public feeling: Crowds gather in Union Square, New York, to wait for the verdict in the trial



On guard: Los Angeles police gather at the edge of a rally that began as Zimmerman was cleared of all charges



Rally: Protesters in Los Angeles gather to show their response to the Zimmerman trial on Saturday night

The first words in the trial, from state attorney John Guy, had been: 'F***ing punks, these a**holes always get away,' words that were repeated to the jury several times in the three weeks of testimony.

Words, they said, that proved Zimmerman acted with ill will, spite and hatred when he followed Trayvon as he was walking home from a 7/11 and, after a scuffle, shot him through the heart.

They portrayed Zimmerman as a 'vigilante', a 'wannabe cop', a man filled with hatred and frustration after a spate of burglaries in the community he felt he was responsible for protecting.

On Friday, the prosecution appealed to the emotions and the hearts of the all-women jury and in a powerful rebuttal, John Guy said: 'Trayvon Martin was a son, a brother and a friend and the last thing he did on this Earth was to try to get home.

'George Zimmerman didn't shoot the teen because he had to, he shot him because he wanted to,' repeating words he used in his opening statement.



Drama: Judge Debra Nelson repeatedly locked horns with defence attorney Don West throughout the final days of the trial



Evidence: Gladys Zimmerman said the screams on the 911 call belonged to her son George



© AP

Mother: Sybrina Fulton took to the stand earlier when she unequivocally stated after hearing the 911 call from February 26: 'I heard my son screaming'

In contrast, the defense took a more methodical, conversational and almost calm approach in their delivery. Mr West included his 'Knock Knock' joke in his opening statement, though it failed to have the desired effect.

They called only 18 witnesses to the state's 38 and dedicated a lot of time trying to hammer home to the jury that Zimmerman feared for his life and was merely defending himself from a vicious MMA-style beating at the hands of Trayvon.

Mr O'Mara pointed out again and again in his closing argument the state did not prove beyond a reasonable doubt that murder in the second-degree occurred.

'Pure and unadulterated innocence', he said. 'In fact, George Zimmerman committed no crime at all.

'My client is not guilty of anything but protecting his own life,' he told the jury.



© Reuters

Distress: A mother who was listening to the end of the trial with her children weeps at the jury's decision



JA @Curtiss_20 1m
Jesus himself can't help #Zimmerman on what's bout to happen to him. He a dead man walking.

Reaction: Some people took to Twitter to show their disapproval of the verdict



BrionnaAngelic @Bri_angel12 2m
George Zimmerman will have to have his own set of bodyguards for the rest his life! #Zimmerman

© Twitter



Zena Edwards @ZenaEdwards 2h
"Only in america can a dead black boy go on trial for his own murder." - Syreeta Mcfadden #trayvonMartin #Zimmerman 18-15n-77-30w.tumblr.com/post/553351157...

© Twitter

Expand

Central to the case and played numerous times by both legal teams over the last three weeks was the 911 call from a resident of the Retreat at Twin Lakes community.

Terrified and piercing screams for help can be heard in the background before a shot rings out, silencing them instantly.

The prosecution's last witness was Sybrina Fulton, a mother who lost her only son. She took the stand and said unequivocally the cries for help belonged to her son.

On the same day, the defense called their first witness Gladys Zimmerman, and she - just like Sybrina - told the court it was her son George calling for help.

Convincing jurors about whose voice is screaming for help on 911 calls that captured audio of the fight was the primary goal of prosecutors and defense attorneys.

Martin's mother, father and brother testified it's the Miami teen screaming for help on recordings of the 911 calls made by Zimmerman's neighbors.

Zimmerman's mother, uncle, father and five friends told jurors it was the neighborhood watch volunteer's voice. One of Zimmerman's neighbors, Jayne Surdyka, says the screams were those of a boy.

Next up was Zimmerman's uncle, retired sheriff Jorge Meza, who acted as a powerful witness to the defense, revealing he was not played the 911 call but only heard it on TV and knew instinctively who it was.

'That voice just came and hit me. Not only did I hear the scream but I felt it. I know it was my Georgie, I felt it,' he said while fighting back tears.

The defense also called witness after witness - neighbors, colleagues and friends of Zimmerman - who also unwaveringly testified that it was the neighborhood watch volunteer shouting for help.



Hostile: Witness Rachel Jeantel, right, continues her testimony to defense attorney Don West on day four of George Zimmerman's trial in Seminole circuit court in Sanford

Another point of contention was - who attacked who at the gated community? Who was the aggressor and who was the victim? Whose life was in danger that night? Who was on Top?

Zimmerman was wearing a red jacket, and Martin had on a dark hoodie.

Zimmerman's former neighbor Jonathan Good, perhaps the witness with the best view of what happened, says he

saw a person in dark clothing straddling someone in red or white clothing and making downward movements with his fists in a mixed-martial arts maneuver known as 'ground and pound.' Neighbors Selma Mora and Surdyka say the person on top got up after the shooting.

Zimmerman's attorneys say Zimmerman had been on the bottom but got on top of Martin after he fired his gun.

The state said Zimmerman had been training at an MMA gym three times a week over the past year.

Zimmerman told investigators that Martin was on top of him, pounding his head into the pavement. After he fired his gun, he says, he got on top of Martin and spread his arms.

However, a photo taken moments later by Zimmerman's neighbor shows Martin's arms under his body.

Defense expert Vincent DiMaio testified Martin could have moved his arms in the 10 to 15 seconds he would have been conscious after being shot in the heart.



Defence witness: Dr Vincent di Maio, a forensic pathologist and gunshot wound expert, describes George Zimmerman's injuries which he said were consistent with his head being banged against concrete

Rachel Jeantel, Trayvon's friend, who was on the phone to the teen right before he was shot, told the court her friend was frightened because a man was following him. She told him to go home.

The last thing she heard Trayvon say was: 'Why are you following me?' before the phone went dead. She also claimed it was Zimmerman who approached Trayvon saying, 'What are you doing around here?'

The defense highlighted the physical differences between the 17-year-old and the then 28-year-old. That at around 6ft, Trayvon towered over Zimmerman, who was 5ft 8in and considered to be 'soft' and borderline obese at 200lb.

They said Travyon was not a scared young boy who feared for his life, but a strapping young man who pounced on Zimmerman and started beating him.

Possibly one of the best witnesses to take the stand in the whole trial was a forensic pathologist who was an expert in gunshot wounds.

Dr Vincent di Maio told the jury that the way the powder marks were formed around the bullet wound showed the gun would have been two-to-four inches away from the teenager's body when the shot was fired, indicating he was leaning

forward at the time.

'The physical evidence is consistent with George Zimmerman's account that Mr Martin was over him,' he said.



Under cross examination from Bernie de la Rionda, Tracy Martin said of the recording: 'I was listening to my son's last cry for help. I was listening to his life being ended by somebody else'

He later testified that Zimmerman's head injuries could have been caused by coming into contact with concrete, even if there were no serious injuries to show this.

Zimmerman has argued all along he acted in self-defense, although he passed up chance for a self-defense 'stand your ground' hearing in which a judge could have thrown out the case without it going to a jury if the judge was convinced there was enough evidence to support it.

Zimmerman's community college instructor, Alexis Francisco Carter, told jurors that a person can claim self-defense if they have a reasonable fear of death or great bodily harm.

In their jury instructions, jurors were told self-defense is justified in using deadly force if Zimmerman reasonably believed that such force was necessary to prevent imminent death or great bodily harm to himself.

To get a second-degree murder conviction, prosecutors needed to show that Zimmerman acted with ill will, hatred, spite or evil intent.

Prosecutors argued that profanities Zimmerman uttered under his breath while he watched Martin walk through his neighborhood were evidence of ill will and hatred.

But when asked by prosecutors and defense attorneys, no witness said Zimmerman acted with these traits.

The judge presiding over the case also allowed jurors to consider the lesser charge of manslaughter.

To get a manslaughter conviction, prosecutors were required to show that Zimmerman killed without lawful justification.

Read more:

- [Zimmerman Is Acquitted in Trayvon Martin Killing](#)
- [George Zimmerman found not guilty of murder in Trayvon Martin's death](#)

MOST WATCHED NEWS VIDEOS

- [Previous](#)
- [1](#)
- [2](#)
- [3](#)
- [Next](#)



- [WARNING GRAPHIC: Three gored in Pamplona's Running of the...](#)



- [Big dog VERY unsure about tiny kitten](#)



- [News station tricked into reading out fake names](#)



- [Graphic content: Mother walks children out in front of car](#)



- [Dramatic moment jury acquits George Zimmerman of Trayvon...](#)



- [Horrific crash in Russia throws driver onto the road](#)



- [Demonstrations hit Washington D.C. to protest Zimmerman...](#)



- [Bulls hit human wall in San Fermin running festival](#)



- [VIDEO: Pervert bus driver caught masturbating by librarian](#)



- [Prosecution and defense teams react to Zimmerman's not...](#)



- [Martin family disappointed by Zimmerman acquittal](#)



- [Step on it! Impala leaps into truck to escape cheetahs](#)

MOST READ NEWS

- [Previous](#)
- [1](#)
- [2](#)
- [3](#)
- [Next](#)



- [The system has failed': Hundreds of demonstrators voice...](#)



- [NOT GUILTY: America erupts as jury finds George Zimmerman...](#)



- [Tampons, bottles urine and feces removed from protesters as...](#)



- [Drinker who claimed to be fired Goldman Sachs employee whose...](#)



- [Pennsylvania teens chase down kidnapper's car on their BIKES...](#)



- [Revealed: The REAL reason George Zimmerman didn't stop that...](#)



- [Has the Duchess of Cambridge returned to her family's...](#)



- [The last hours of Cory Monteith: 'Happy and healthy' Glee...](#)



- [Protests erupt from coast to coast after George Zimmerman...](#)



- [Twitter agrees to hand over details of people who post...](#)



Royal baby 'needs a stay-at-home mum': Don't have nanny, cut...



The bloody day Harry was witness to an horrific war crime:...

Comments (158)

- [Newest](#)
- [Oldest](#)
- [Best rated](#)
- [Worst rated](#)

[View all](#)

would be interesting to see how a trial with a black security guard shooting a white kid would've gone .?.....just saying.

- [Glenn Quagmire](#) , Quahog, 14/7/2013 05:12

Click to rate _ _ Rating 482

[Report abuse](#)

I am a prosecutor- the verdict was just and right. Charges should never have been brought in this matter.

- [americangirl](#) , dallas, 14/7/2013 05:12

Click to rate _ _ Rating 2597

[Report abuse](#)

he was acquitted...I doubt ANY other remedy is possibleno civil matter...

- [Carolynn](#) , Southfield, 14/7/2013 05:10

Click to rate _ _ Rating 1320

[Report abuse](#)

Zimmerman is not free, he will have to relocate and be looking over his shoulder the rest of his life!!! So sad for him and his family!

- [Lucky Girl](#) , St.Louis. USA, 14/7/2013 05:10

Click to rate _ _ Rating 1961

[Report abuse](#)

Justice served.

- [somerwherehere](#) , Cincinnati, 14/7/2013 05:09

Click to rate _ _ Rating 1594

[Report abuse](#)

I see the press is still enamored of the phrase "skittles and a can of juice", as if it is somehow relevant.

- [Ben568](#) , Camden, 14/7/2013 05:08

Click to rate __ Rating 1689

[Report abuse](#)

I would suppose Zimmerman will get his chance to become a Police Officer and he can go do it legally again !

- [Invincible Truth](#) , NGC Qld., 14/7/2013 05:08

Click to rate __ Rating 1502

[Report abuse](#)

This was a tragedy. Two young men who could have defused the situation, instead escalated it and resulted in the death of one of them. Zimmerman is not "innocent". Rather he is "not guilty" of second degree muder or manslaughter, which was the only correct decision by the jury. Obama, Sharpton and Jackson ought to be ashamed of themselves. But for pressure from DC, Zimmerman would never have been charged. The lesson to be learned from this is that young men should learn to stand down, and not escalate a situation which might get out of hand. Martin is no choir boy either. But it is too late. If only he too had used better judgement.

- [Nm](#) , Toronto, 14/7/2013 05:08

Click to rate __ Rating 1337

[Report abuse](#)

"America erupts"?

- [Dylan](#) , NYC, United States, 14/7/2013 05:07

Click to rate __ Rating 446

[Report abuse](#)

A disgraceful day for justice in the United States. My sympathies to the family of Trayvon Martin.

- [Simca](#) , Alexandria VA, 14/7/2013 05:06

Click to rate __ Rating 1838

[Report abuse](#)

Share this comment

The views expressed in the contents above are those of our users and do not necessarily reflect the views of MailOnline.



Find this story at www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-2362374/NOT-GUILTY-America-erupts-jury-finds-George-Zimmerman-innocent-murder-manslaughter-unarmed-17-year-old-Trayvon-Martin-race-case-divided-nation.html

Published by Associated Newspapers Ltd

Part of the Daily Mail, The Mail on Sunday & Metro Media Group

GlamEntertainment
© Associated Newspapers Ltd