

Miramar man not guilty in fatal 2012 Soca Paradise shooting

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Jury accepts self defense argument in 2012 Soca Paradise shooting in Pembroke Pines.

A Miramar man has been found not guilty of murdering a distant family member after a party in Pembroke Pines in 2012.

Ritesh Sukhlall, 29, was charged with the murder of Shawn Samad, 20, outside the Grand Palms Golf & Country Club after a Soca Paradise party ended early on Dec. 16, 2012. Prosecutors said Samad and Sukhlall were not even involved in the original dispute that broke out, but each jumped in to support other participants.

Samad and Sukhlall were not directly related, but they had family members in common by marriage.

During closing arguments last Thursday, defense lawyer Marcos Beaton said Sukhlall acted in self defense when he shot Samad to death. The jury reached its not guilty verdict on Friday.