

## PRESS RELEASE

## Defendant Sentenced to 8 years for Breaking Into Local Businesses March 21, 2019

Bryan, TX – On Monday, Devante Webb, 23, of Houston, was sentenced to 8 years in prison for his role in breaking into multiple local businesses in December 2017.

Back in December 2017, a number of Brazos County businesses reported similar breakins. The burglars hit Jumping World in Bryan on December 2, Willie's Icehouse in College Station on December 7, Smitty K's Sports Bar & Grill in College Station on December 8; and finally Koppe Bridge in College Station on December 15. Local police agencies worked together to investigate the burglaries.

In each case, surveillance footage showed a group of five young men breaking into the buildings in the early morning hours, either by smashing a glass door or by using a crowbar to gain entry. They hid their faces with hats, hoodies, and dust masks. They would then look for any money in the building, including in the registers, bank bags, or in safes. At Koppe Bridge, the burglars were actually seen on video attempting to use a power grinder to break into a safe.

Police also discovered that during this same time period, three restaurants in Navasota were burglarized in the same way. College Station Police officers interrupted the group of burglars while they were inside Koppe Bridge. The burglars attempted to flee but all five were arrested with assistance from a DPS helicopter.

In investigating the case, cell phone records showed all five defendants lived in Houston but were present in College Station and Navasota at the time of each of these burglaries. It does not appear any of the defendants had any connection to Brazos County outside of the burglaries.

"These defendants made Brazos County a target for their crimes. They would have continued to return and take advantage of this community but for the strong investigation and cooperation of our local law enforcement agencies." - Ashley Martin, Assistant District Attorney

