



PRESS RELEASE

Bank Robber Sentenced to 40 Years in Prison

November 12, 2015

Bryan, TX – Jarrell Johnson, 25, was sentenced to 40 years in prison today after pleading guilty to four counts of Aggravated Robbery arising from a 2014 car-jacking and subsequent bank robbery in Bryan.

On November 5, 2014, Johnson, and a co-defendant, Jamarrio Butler, approached a woman outside of the Dollar General located at MLK and Highway 21 in Bryan. Butler held the woman at gunpoint and forced her to remove her three-year-old grandchild from his car seat and hand over her keys. Johnson and Butler then took the woman's vehicle and drove to Prosperity Bank located at Highway 21 and Texas Avenue.

Once at the bank, Johnson and Butler entered the building and Butler pointed a gun at the tellers. Both men went behind the teller counter and took approximately \$15,000 in cash, before running out of the bank and leaving in the stolen vehicle.

Johnson and Butler crashed the vehicle a short distance away from the bank and fled into a wooded area where the gun was discarded. Bryan Police tracked Johnson and Butler through the woods by following a trail of evidence including cash, money straps from the bank, gloves, and a bag that Johnson was seen holding on bank surveillance video. Both men were arrested by police after a brief foot chase on Waco Street in Bryan.

The Bryan Police Department was able to locate and recover nearly all of the money stolen from the bank. Johnson initially lied to detectives about his involvement before ultimately confessing to the robberies.

Johnson has a lengthy criminal history. In 2008, Johnson was placed on probation in Brazos County for Robbery. In 2009, he violated that probation and was sentenced to five years in prison. Johnson also has prior convictions for Credit Card Abuse, Evading Arrest, and Possession of a Controlled Substance.





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Johnson had also previously been ordered to numerous rehabilitation programs both through adult probation and as a juvenile.

In October of 2015, Johnson's co-defendant, Jamarrio Butler, was convicted of four counts of Aggravated Robbery for his role in the crime and sentenced by the jury to life in prison. The case was investigated by the Bryan Police Department and a Deputy Constable from Precinct 4 in Brazos County. The case was prosecuted by Assistant District Attorneys Ryan Calvert and Philip McLemore.

“Brazos County juries have repeatedly made clear that armed robbers will be severely punished. Because the community has sent that message so forcefully, we were able to remove this armed robber from our streets without having to put the victims through another trial.” - Ryan Calvert & Philip McLemore, Assistant District Attorneys

