



# **PRESS RELEASE**

## **Defendant Sentenced to Prison for Repeated Thefts**

**June 7, 2022**

Bryan, TX – Latonya Payton was sentenced to 18 months in state jail for Theft with Previous Convictions on Thursday, June 2nd. The maximum possible sentence is 24 months in state jail. The defendant pled guilty to the offense and punishment was decided by visiting Judge Kaycee Jones after a punishment hearing.

In this case, on September 24, 2020, Payton was caught stealing alcohol from Spec's in College Station. An employee recognized her car as being one involved in multiple liquor thefts around town.

Payton initially denied the theft, but later admitted to it after being shown surveillance footage. During the punishment hearing, the State presented evidence of Payton's extensive criminal history and other pending cases. Payton was first placed on probation for Theft as a juvenile in 1999. Since then, she has committed multiple other crimes.

In 2001, Payton was placed on probation for stealing from Sears. That same year, she was convicted of Theft for stealing money from her employer, Jack in the Box, in College Station. While on probation in both of those cases, Payton stole purses from Dillard's at the Post Oak Mall, for which she served 120 days in the Brazos County Jail. She also stole from S Fashion & Beauty and served 7 months in the state jail as a result of the felony offense.

In 2003, Payton was placed on a 5-year felony probation out of Williamson County for Theft. In 2009, Payton came back to Brazos County and committed Theft at Target. In 2010, she was sentenced to 90 days in the Brazos County Jail for the Theft. That same year, she was arrested and pled guilty to committing Theft at Macy's in Harris County.

Payton's criminal history extends beyond Theft. Payton was convicted of Criminal Mischief in 2002, and Failure to Identify in 2015. This case was investigated by the College Station Police Department and the Brazos County District Attorney's Office.





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The case was prosecuted by Brazos County Assistant District Attorneys Yasmeeen Aboellhasan and Gretchen Connick.

**“The defendant has repeatedly victimized local businesses and people in our community over the years. She has been given multiple chances to turn her life around. This sentence is a response to her repeat criminal conduct.”**

**- Yasmeeen Aboellhasan and Gretchen Connick, Assistant District Attorneys**

