



## PRESS RELEASE

### Bank Robber Sentenced to 40 Years in prison

January 30, 2019

Bryan, TX – Damien Gore, also known as Damon Simmons, was sentenced to 40 years in prison for his role in a bank robbery that occurred in College Station in 2016.

Gore and three other associates from Houston acted together to threaten bank employees and steal money. The group planned the robbery days in advance, including obtaining firearms, planning for multiple getaway vehicles, a lookout vehicle, and the ability to be in constant communication through synced Bluetooth devices on their phones.

Gore and his co-defendants parked one getaway car close to the bank and had another member drive Gore and a third member to the bank while the fourth member acted as the lookout across the street.

One co-defendant entered the bank pretending to be interested in opening an account, presumptively to make sure there were no law enforcement officers inside the bank. Once they felt sure there weren't any officers, Gore entered the bank with his gun held high and demanded everyone into the center of the bank lobby. He threatened to kill everyone if the cops showed up.

Gore and his counterpart then demanded all the money from the safe and held people at gunpoint to make sure they complied. Gore and his counterpart escaped with two bags of money and fled to a getaway car waiting behind the bank.

College Station Police arrived shortly after Gore and his co-defendants fled the scene and were able to get descriptions of suspects and their cars.

Gore had previously been convicted of another robbery in Harris County in 1999. Assistant District Attorneys John Brick & Cahal McColgan prosecuted the case on behalf of the State of Texas.

**“With the cooperation of the bank employees, College Station Police were able to act quickly and detain two of the suspects within minutes of the robbery. The police also did a fantastic job using resources to track the remaining robbers and connect them to this case.”**

**- John Brick, Assistant District Attorney**

