



NEWS RELEASE
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

NAKED MAN WHO FORCED ENTRY INTO GARAGE FOUND GUILTY OF
BURGLARY

SPRINGFIELD, Mo. – Greene County Prosecuting Attorney Dan Patterson announces that on Monday, August 13, 2018, Dale E. Cater Jr, 41, of Ozark, Missouri was convicted by a Greene County Jury of burglarizing the garage of a Springfield couple and assaulting one of the homeowners.

Cater was found guilty of three counts contained in the felony information, following a one day trial. The jury deliberated for one hour before returning its verdict.

The Defendant was found guilty by the jury in Count 1 charging burglary in the first degree, Count 2 charging assault in the fourth degree, and Count 3 charging property damage in the second degree, for events that took place on August 6, 2017, in Springfield, Missouri.

On Sunday, August 6, shortly after 7AM, the Defendant was found completely naked, sitting in the backseat of a car inside of an enclosed garage. The interior of the garage and car had been ransacked and a hatchet had been placed on the front passenger seat. When discovered by one of the homeowners, the Defendant struck the homeowner in the face in an attempt to escape. The homeowner was able to hold the backseat car door closed until Springfield police arrived. Officers located damage to the doorframe of a rear door in the garage, indicating that forced entry had been made.

The jury trial was presided over by The Honorable David Jones. Because of prior convictions, the defendant is subject to a sentence of ten to thirty years in the Missouri Department of Corrections. Judge Jones set a sentencing hearing for November 19,

Subject: Greene County Prosecuting Attorney Press Release, State v.
Cater, 1731-CR04912-01

2018 at 10:30AM following a sentencing assessment report by the Department of
Probation and Parole.

**This case is being prosecuted by Assistant Prosecuting Attorney James
Miao and Darren Dodd. It was investigated by the Springfield Police Department
and Officer Eric Dye was the lead officer on the case.**

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