



NEWS RELEASE
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

SEX OFFENDER CONVICTED OF ARMED ROBBERY, DRAWING GUN ON POLICE

SPRINGFIELD, Mo. – Greene County Prosecuting Attorney Dan Patterson announces that Michael Duane Hancock, 48, of Springfield, Missouri was convicted late Friday afternoon by a Greene County Jury for the armed robbery of the Phillips 66 gas station and drawing his gun on the responding law enforcement officers. The jury, selected on December 11, heard evidence and arguments over the next three days, and returned their verdict on Friday.

The charges arose out of events that occurred on May 11, 2017. Evidence and testimony revealed that the defendant walked into the Phillips 66 station wearing a paintball mask, a dark jacket and gloves. He was also wielding a semi-automatic pistol. He demanded the money in the register, as well as cigarettes and other items. He took the bag full of money and backed out of the store. He was seen leaving the gas station by a Prime Security Officer working the night shift at the Oasis Hotel, who called 911. Responding Springfield Police Officers Matthew Thomas and Brandon Gonzales found the defendant just north of the gas station within minutes of the robbery. The defendant fled on foot, and the officers pursued him into the Hampton Inn parking lot, where he turned and aimed his pistol at Officer Thomas. Officer Thomas fired his duty weapon five times at the defendant, and Officer Gonzales fired once. The defendant was struck twice and was sent to the hospital. After apprehending the defendant, it was found that the defendant was a prior sex offender, with convictions for attempted forcible rape and forcible sodomy. This made it unlawful for him to possess a firearm.

The jury trial was presided over by The Honorable J. Ron Carrier. The defendant is subject to a sentence from ten years to life imprisonment for robbery in the first degree, a minimum of three years for armed criminal action, up to seven years for unlawful possession of a firearm, and up to four years for unlawful use of a weapon.

Subject: Greene County Prosecuting Attorney Press Release, State v.
Hancock, 1731-CR03201-01

Judge Carrier set a sentencing hearing for February 22nd, 2019 at 11:00 AM following a sentencing assessment report by the Department of Probation and Parole.

This case is being prosecuted by Assistant Prosecuting Attorneys Joseph Wright and Scott Lucy. It was investigated by the Springfield Police Department and Detectives Matthew Farmer and Cody Williams were the lead investigators assigned to the case.

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