



NEWS RELEASE  
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Career Criminal Sentenced to 10 years in the Missouri Department of Corrections

SPRINGFIELD, Mo. – Greene County Prosecuting Attorney Dan Patterson announces that Theodore W. Harpool, 42, of Flemington, Missouri, was sentenced yesterday by the Honorable Calvin Holden to 10 years in the Missouri Department of Corrections as a prior and persistent offender on two cases after argument from the State and the defense. In case number 0931-CR08658, on December 23, 2009, the defendant was arrested after a witness had reported that the defendant was opening mailboxes in a residential neighborhood. Officers found, after a search of the defendant's truck, stolen checks. The stolen checks were taken from mail boxes around town and then forged. In case number 1031-CR00887, on December 13, 2009, the defendant was arrested by Officer Alexander of the Springfield Police Department after being flagged down by a concerned citizen at Sunshine Lanes bowling alley. The concerned citizen reported that the defendant was dazed and partially asleep in his pickup truck. Officer Alexander arrested the defendant on a outstanding warrant. Forged checks were found in his wallet. Again, the stolen checks were from mailboxes throughout town. Additionally, the defendant on December 9, 2009 was using a stolen credit card to make purchases at a Kum and Go. The stolen credit card was taken from a burglary which had occurred the previous night.

The defendant is a career criminal with convictions beginning 1986 in at least five different counties. The defendant has over twenty prior felony criminal convictions.

**This case was prosecuted by Assistant Prosecuting Attorney Nhan Nguyen. It was investigated by the Springfield Police Department and Detective Kevin Sweckard was the lead investigator assigned to the case.**

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