



NEWS RELEASE
GREENE COUNTY PROSECUTING ATTORNEY
DAN PATTERSON

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09/02/2016

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CHARGES FILED IN MAXON'S ROBBERY

SPRINGFIELD, Mo. – Greene County Prosecuting Attorney Dan Patterson announces that Mark Anthone Pitts, 31, of Michigan has been charged today with robbery in the second degree, burglary in the first degree, and tampering in the first degree. These charges stem from events which occurred yesterday, September 1, 2016.

Mr. Patterson cautions that the charges contained in the felony complaint are merely allegations and that the defendant is presumed innocent until and unless proven guilty in court.

Copies of the felony complaint and probable statement filed in this case are attached to this release. The Missouri Supreme Court ethics rules prohibit comments on the facts or investigation of this case beyond those contained in the felony complaint and probable cause statement that are part of the public record.

This case is being prosecuted by Assistant Prosecuting Attorney T. Myers. It is being investigated by the Springfield Police Department and Detective Scott Hill is the lead investigator assigned to the case.

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IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF GREENE COUNTY, MISSOURI

Associate Division _____

STATE OF MISSOURI,

Plaintiff,

vs.

MARK ANTHONE PITTS ,

Defendant.

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Case No. 1631-CR07359 WJ

OCN#

PA File No. 077368912

FELONY COMPLAINT

COUNT I

(Missouri Charge Code: 569.030-001Y19791299.)

The Prosecuting Attorney of the County of Greene, State of Missouri, charges that the defendant, in violation of Section 569.030, RSMo, committed the class B felony of robbery in the second degree, punishable upon conviction under Section 558.011, RSMo, in that on or about September 1, 2016, in the County of Greene, State of Missouri, the defendant forcibly stole Rolex watches owned by Maxon's Diamond Merchants.

COUNT II

(Missouri Charge Code: 569.160-001Y19792299.)

The Prosecuting Attorney of the County of Greene, State of Missouri, charges that the defendant, in violation of Section 569.160, RSMo, committed the class B felony of burglary in the first degree, punishable upon conviction under Section 558.011, RSMo, in that on or about September 1, 2016, in the County of Greene, State of Missouri, the defendant knowingly entered unlawfully in a building, located at 2622 S. Glenstone and possessed by Maxon's Diamond Merchant, for the purpose of committing stealing therein, and while in such building there was present in such building, a person who was not a participant in the crime.

COUNT III

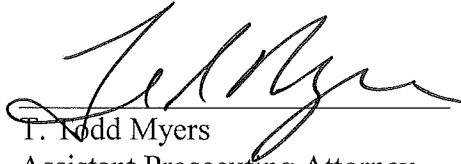
(Missouri Charge Code: 569.080-002Y20052999.)

The Prosecuting Attorney of the County of Greene, State of Missouri, charges that the defendant, in violation of Section 569.080.1(2), RSMo, committed the class C felony of tampering in the first degree, punishable upon conviction under Sections 558.011 and 560.011, RSMo, in that on or about September 1, 2016, in the County of Greene, State of Missouri, the defendant knowingly and without the consent of the owner unlawfully operated an automobile, to wit: a 2000 Dodge Stratus.

The facts that form the basis for this information and belief are contained in the attached probable cause statement concerning this matter, which statement is made a part hereof and is submitted herewith as a basis upon which this court may find the existence of probable cause for the issuance of the warrant.

WHEREFORE, the Prosecuting Attorney prays that an arrest warrant be issued as provided by law.

DAN PATTERSON
Prosecuting Attorney of the County of
Greene, State of Missouri, by

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "T. Todd Myers", is written over a horizontal line.

T. Todd Myers
Assistant Prosecuting Attorney
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IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF GREENE COUNTY, MISSOURI

STATE OF MISSOURI,)
Plaintiff,)
vs.) Case No. 1631-CR07359
)
)PA File No. 077368912
MARK ANTHON PITT)
Defendant.)

PROSECUTING ATTORNEY'S BAIL/BOND RECOMMENDATION

The bail/bond recommendation of the Greene County Prosecutor, in this case, is as follows:

1. AMOUNT: \$200,000.00

- ☒ OPEN COURT ONLY BOND (by administrative order applies automatically to bonds \$25,000 and higher)
☐ State agrees to recognizance release by Court Order after the first court appearance upon the conditions of release in Exhibit A
☐ Hold without Bond

2. The State requests that the Court also impose the conditions of bond set out on the proposed Exhibit A to Arrest Warrant attached hereto and that such conditions be incorporated by reference upon the Warrant.

3. The State requests the Court set bond in the above amount and upon the conditions set out in Exhibit A to Arrest Warrant hereto for the following reasons: Defendant admitted he came to Springfield from Detroit to commit this crime. The victim's suffered a loss of over \$100,000.00 Currently, police are investigating possible connections to similar crimes in other cities in other states. The defendant has no known ties to Springfield. Defendant indicated that he and several people from other states came here to rob the jewelry store. The defendant refused to identify the other people involved and they are at large. The defendant has a criminal history from Michigan which includes: multiple convictions for larceny of a motor vehicle, conviction for firearm possession. The defendant has served time in prison.

Respectfully submitted,



Electronically signed

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PROBABLE CAUSE STATEMENT

Date: September 2, 2016

I, Scott Hill, a law enforcement officer, knowing that false statements made in this form are punishable by law, state as follows:

1. I have probable cause to believe that Mark Anthone Pitts , DOB: 1 [REDACTED] 1984 committed one or more criminal offenses.

2. The offense(s) happened on September 1, 2016 at 15:46 at 2622 S. Glenstone in Greene County, Missouri.

3. The facts supporting this belief are as follows: (Insert concise facts supporting each element of charge)

On September 1, 2016, Springfield Department Officers were dispatched to the Maxon's Diamond Merchants at 2622 S. Glenstone, Springfield, Greene County, Missouri, in reference to a robbery. The employees of Maxon's told police that an African American male was buzzed in to the secure store. When he entered, the male refused to close the door. Employees approached the male and tried pushing him out of the store. The male refused and resisted their efforts and forced the door open. The male at the door then allowed two other African American males to rush into the store. Two of the men entered the store while the third man stood by the front door. The two men who entered pulled out small sledge hammers and began breaking the glass counter where Rolex watches were contained. The men were able to grab several watches before fleeing.

I viewed the surveillance video. The three men forced their way into the Maxon's store. The video clearly shows the men breaking the counters and stealing watches. After they fled, there is video showing a getaway car waiting for them. This vehicle was determined to be a grey 2000 Dodge Stratus. Through the investigation, it was determined that this 2000 Dodge Stratus had been stolen earlier in the day from the Target parking lot.

One man, later identified as Mark Pitts, was unable to get into the fleeing Dodge Stratus. A Maxon's employee followed Pitts on foot and directed officers towards his location. Springfield Police Officers arrested Pitts in front of 2815 S. Stewart Avenue. Pitts was identified as one of the suspects who entered the store with the sledge hammer and stole several Rolex watches. A total of 11 Rolex watches were stolen, which totaled over \$100,000. Pitts was arrested and taken to the Greene County Jail. The other suspects were not located.

In a recorded Post Miranda interview, Pitts admitted his involvement in the robbery. Pitts advised me he was from Detroit, Michigan area and came to Springfield to do this robbery. Pitts advised he would've assaulted employees with the sledge hammer to steal the watches. Pitts estimated he stole anywhere from 6-10 Rolex watches. Pitts also confirmed this was a planned robbery with several people involved from out of state.

The above statements are true to the best of my information and belief.

