



NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Judge Gives Prior and Persistent Robber Probation
for Offenses Committed While on Probation

SPRINGFIELD, MO – Greene County Prosecuting Attorney Dan Patterson announces that Jamaal Walls, age 26, was sentenced on June 9, 2017, by Judge David Jones to probation for a series of felonies committed in 2015 and 2016 despite the fact that the defendant was on probation for two attempted robberies and a separate felony assault of a law enforcement officer at the time of his crimes. While the judge imposed seven year sentences in each Greene County case, consecutive to each other, he declined to send the defendant to the Department of Corrections and instead elected to continue the defendant on probation. The State asked for two seven year sentences consecutive to each other, and for probation to be denied.

At the time of today's sentencing, Walls had two outstanding felony probation warrants from Jackson County and a felony warrant from Taney County for the offenses of burglary 1st degree, unlawful possession of a firearm, tampering with a motor vehicle, resisting arrest, theft/stealing and leaving the scene of an accident.

Walls was convicted of robbery 2nd degree, in May 2010 and he was sentenced to six years in MDOC. Walls had stopped a female victim, who was on a motor scooter, he produced a weapon and pointed it at the victim. He then took the victim's purse, keys and a small amount of money and fled the area on foot.

Within twenty days of his release from prison, Walls committed two new offenses of attempted robbery in the first degree. Walls had robbed a Taco Bell and a McDonald's, showing the employees a gun, tucked into his waistband, at both robberies.

While in custody in the Jackson County Detention Center, awaiting disposition of the attempted robbery 1st degree charges, Walls was charged with assault on a law enforcement officer 2nd degree for punching a correctional officer several times in the face and midsection.

Subject: Greene County Prosecuting Attorney Press Release, State v. Walls, 1631-CR02928-01

On June 25, 2013, Walls was convicted of the two counts of attempted robbery 1st degree and was sentenced to ten years in the Department of Corrections and given 120 days' shock incarceration.

On October 25, 2013, Walls was placed on probation on the two attempted robbery 1st degree cases. However, he continued to be held in the Missouri Department of Corrections until his maximum release date for the robbery 2nd degree sentence. On December 19, 2014, Walls was placed on supervision for a period of five years for the offense of attempted assault on a law enforcement officer 2nd degree.

In 2015, the defendant moved to Greene County, and having just been released on probation for attempted robbery and assault on a corrections officer, was caught stealing thousands of dollars' worth of televisions from Walmart. On one occasion, he stole so many TVs that he could not fit them all in his vehicle, and had to make two separate trips back to Walmart to make off with his stolen loot. The defendant ultimately pled guilty to these charges, and was released from custody, over objection from the State, on his own recognizance pending sentencing.

On April 23, 2015, Walls was arrested on a capias warrant issued by the Court on the pending present offenses, due to violating the conditions of his bond by removing his GPS bracelet (monitored by Pretrial Services).

On March 5, 2016, and within days of being released, ostensibly for the purpose of showing the Judge that he could behave appropriately in society, he was back at Walmart, this time stealing two computers. Off-duty police officers Major Kirk Manlove and Officer Michael Mallow noticed the defendant making for the door. They moved to intercept him, and after Officer Mallow identified himself as a police officer, a brief struggle ensued, with Officer Mallow sustaining minor injuries. The defendant escaped, and while running towards his girlfriend's car yelled "get my gun." The officers broke pursuit, electing to avoid a gunfight in the busy Walmart vestibule.

The defendant was again spotted by law enforcement on March 9, 2016. Officer Taylor Bolton spotted the defendant, who now had a warrant for his arrest. A foot pursuit ensued, with the defendant fleeing from the officer through heavy traffic, causing multiple bystander cars to swerve out of the way of the defendant and pursuing officer. After the defendant was apprehended, it was found he had abandoned his then-girlfriend's three-year-old daughter in the car when he fled.

When sentencing the defendant for these March 5 and March 9, 2016 incidents, the State noted that the defendant was a dangerous felon on probation for attempted robbery and assault on a corrections officer when all of these offenses were committed. He was repeatedly given chances to show that he can comport himself to the laws of society. He continued to show that he is unwilling or unable to follow the law, even with a ten-year sentence in Jackson County hanging over his head. Judge Jones noted that he was fully ready to execute the sentences in both cases, however, ultimately declined to do so. Instead, the Judge gave Walls probation with a 14-year backup, which is also

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set consecutive to his current probation cases in Jackson County. In doing so the defendant was sentenced in one case to seven years for felony stealing and resisting arrest and seven years in the second case for a separate incident of resisting arrest.

These cases were prosecuted by Assistant Prosecuting Attorney Joseph Wright, and were investigated by officers and detectives with the Springfield Police Department.

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