



NEWS RELEASE
GREENE COUNTY PROSECUTING ATTORNEY
DAN PATTERSON

Contact: Rhonda Ogden, Office Manager – (417) 868-4061
1010 Boonville
Springfield, MO 65802

10/09/2014

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

JURY CONVICTS MAN OF PASSING COUNTERFEIT MONEY

SPRINGFIELD, Mo. – Greene County Prosecuting Attorney Dan Patterson announces that Michael Orrie Montgomery II, 37, of Springfield, MO was convicted yesterday by a Greene County jury for forgery. The evidence at trial established that on August 17, 2013, the defendant knowingly passed counterfeit money at a local restaurant in Springfield, Missouri. The counterfeit bill was initially discovered by an alert employee who received the bill when the defendant was paying for his purchase. The employee held onto the bill and contacted local law enforcement. The defendant was arrested on the restaurant's premises. Springfield Police officers conducted a search of the defendant's vehicle and located an envelope of counterfeit bills in the center console.

The evidence further showed that after being advised of his Miranda rights, the defendant was interviewed on two separate occasions by Springfield Police Detective Erich Rogge and Secret Service Agent Dan Allgeyer. In the first interview, the defendant denied knowing that the bills were counterfeit and alleged that some man gave him the bills as payment for tattoo work. The defendant claimed he was unable to provide any contact information for police to locate that individual. However, in a second interview, the defendant admitted that he knew much more about the person who gave him the bills than he initially let on. The defendant also admitted in the second interview that he was aware that the individual was creating counterfeit money.

In trial, Agent Allgeyer discussed how local businesses are commonly targeted by those attempting to pass counterfeit bills into the local economy. Agent Allgeyer explained that counterfeiters often employ a scheme where a larger denomination of counterfeit money is used to purchase a small-dollar item. The intended purpose of this transaction is for the counterfeiter to pass off the fake currency as payment and receive

Subject: Greene County Prosecuting Attorney Press Release, State v. Montgomery, 1431-CR00860-01

back legitimate currency as change. Local businesses and employees are encouraged to be on guard for these types of activities and report any suspicious activity to local law enforcement. This case demonstrates the commitment of Springfield Police Department and the U.S. government to maintaining a functioning economy and protecting local businesses.

This jury trial was presided over by the Honorable Calvin Holden. The defendant is a prior and persistent felon with felony convictions for receiving stolen property, passing bad checks, burglary in the second degree, damage of jail property, and escape from custody. The defendant committed these prior offenses in counties across the state of Missouri, including Greene County, Dallas County, Polk County, and Christian County. As a prior and persistent offender, the defendant is eligible for a range of punishment of up to fifteen years in the Missouri Department of Corrections. Judge Holden set a sentencing hearing for December 5, 2014 at 2:30 p.m.

This case is being prosecuted by Assistant Prosecuting Attorney Jennifer Crancer and Assistant Prosecuting Attorney Ryan Olson. It was investigated by the Springfield Police Dept., and Detective Erich Rogge was the lead investigator assigned to the case.

###