NEWS RELEASE



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## MAN PREVIOUSLY SENTENCED TO TWO LIFE SENTENCES, AND PAROLED TWICE, SENTENCED TO LIFE AGAIN

SPRINGFIELD, Mo. – Greene County Prosecuting Attorney Dan Patterson announces that Derone Booker, was sentenced on June 17, 2022 to a life sentence in the Missouri Department of Corrections for the crime of robbery in the first degree.

Mr. Booker was previously sentenced in 1994 in Jackson County, Missouri, to a life sentence with the possibility of parole. In that case, Mr. Booker was found guilty by jury of two counts of assault in the first degree, two counts of robbery in the first degree, and four counts of armed criminal action for shooting and robbing two people at a gas station.

Mr. Booker was paroled on March 9, 2018 from the Department of Corrections for those offenses. On June 13, 2018, Mr. Booker entered a Walgreens in Springfield and robbed the cashier with what appeared to be a handgun. Mr. Booker was charged in Greene County with robbery in the first degree.

While the Greene County case was pending and Mr. Booker was in jail awaiting trial on the new robbery case, Mr. Booker was again inexplicably paroled by the Missouri Department of Corrections in October of 2020. During the sentencing hearing that occurred on June 17, 2022, the State argued to the Court that when the Missouri Department of Corrections set a date to parole Mr. Booker in October of 2020, the parole board noted "there does not appear to be a reasonable probability at this time that the offender would live and remain at liberty without again violating the law..."

Mr. Booker proceeded to jury trial in March of 2022 and was convicted by a Greene County Jury of robbery in the first degree. Mr. Booker was sentenced on June 17, 2022 by the Honorable Thomas Mountjoy to a life sentence for that offense.

Subject: Greene County Prosecuting Attorney Press Release, State v. Booker, 1831-CR04890

## This case was investigated by the Springfield Police Department and Detective Christopher Barb was the lead investigator assigned to the case.

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