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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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CARBONDALE PAIR SENTENCED FOR VIOLENT CRIME

Michael C. Carr, Jackson County State's Attorney, announced today that Ariel Mix, 25, and Marquis Sutton, 31, both of Carbondale were sentenced for their role in a home invasion which occurred March 15, 2014, in Carbondale.

Evidence revealed that these two defendants, along with co-defendant Richard Nelson, also of Carbondale, went to a hotel room in Carbondale with the intent to rob Alfonso Slaughter of drugs and money they believed to be in his hotel room. When police later arrived at the hotel room, they found Slaughter unconscious, bloody and beaten. Slaughter was taken to Memorial Hospital of Carbondale and later air lifted to St. Louis where he spent one month in the hospital recovering from his injuries. Mix, Sutton and Nelson were all convicted by a jury on August 20, 2014. On October 30, 2014, Richard Nelson was sentenced to 30 years in the Illinois Department of Corrections for his role in the home invasion and a 10 year concurrent sentence for robbery.

Evidence at trial showed that the idea to rob Mr. Slaughter was initiated by Ariel Mix who enlisted her, then boyfriend, Marquis Sutton. They attempted to rob Mr. Slaughter once earlier in the day but they were unsuccessful. Later that same day, they enlisted the aid of Mr. Nelson to accomplish the home invasion and robbery.

For her role in this, Ariel Mix was sentenced to 20 years in the Illinois Department of Corrections on the home invasion charge. This sentence must be served as an 85 percent

sentence. She was also sentenced to a concurrent 7 year sentence for robbery and ordered to serve 3 years of Mandatory Supervised Release upon her release from the Department of Corrections.

The sentencing Judge, calling this “one of the most brutal and heinous attacks he had ever seen in his years on the bench,” sentenced Sutton to 60 years in the department of corrections for the home invasion. He must serve 85 percent of that sentence and he will serve 3 years Mandatory Supervised Release upon his release from the Illinois Department of Corrections. Sutton was also sentenced to an additional 14 years in the Illinois Department of Corrections for the robbery charge. That sentence was ordered to be served consecutive to the 60 year sentence for the home invasion charge making it a total of 74 years.

This case was investigated by the Carbondale Police Department. Assistant State’s Attorney Mark Hamrock prosecuted this case.