



# JACKSON COUNTY STATE'S ATTORNEY

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **CARBONDALE MAN SENTENCED TO PRISON FOR POSSESSION OF A STOLEN AUTOMOBILE**

Michael C. Carr, Jackson County State's Attorney, announced today that a Carbondale man pled guilty to two counts of Possession of a Stolen Motor Vehicle on April 28, 2015, and was sentenced to prison.

Bernard D. Adams, 45, of Carbondale, IL, was convicted in Jackson County Circuit Court of two counts of Possession of a Stolen Motor Vehicle and was sentenced to serve sixteen (16) years in the Illinois Department of Corrections on each count. The defendant will serve a three (3) year period of Mandatory Supervised Release upon his release from the Department of Corrections. The sentences were ordered to run concurrently.

On June 26, 2014, officers with the Carbondale Police Department responded to the report of a hit and run complaint which occurred on South Wall Street in Carbondale. The victim and other witnesses stated that the defendant, Bernard D. Adams, rammed into their vehicle while he was driving a stolen car. An Illinois State Police Trooper present in the area witnessed the incident. Officers began looking for the defendant and the stolen vehicle. Although the stolen vehicle, a 2007 Mercedes, was recovered in a field near the area of the traffic crash, the defendant was not located at the time. The victim's Mercedes sustained major damage during the incident.

While officers were investigating this stolen vehicle, they received another report of a stolen vehicle. A delivery driver for the Daily Egyptian was making his usual delivery of papers to Circle K on East Walnut Street in Carbondale. While there, an unknown person stole the delivery truck from the parking lot. Officers immediately began looking for the vehicle.

A short time later, officers with the Marion, Illinois, Police Department spotted the stolen truck near the Interstate 57 overpass. As officers attempted to perform a traffic stop on the vehicle, the driver fled. The driver was ultimately identified as the defendant. The pursuit led out of Marion and headed west toward Carbondale on Route 13. Police Officers with the Marion Police Department, Williamson County Sheriff's Department, and John A Logan Police pursued the defendant. At times, the pursuit exceeded 100 miles per hour.

Once the defendant entered into Carbondale in the stolen truck, officers with that department deployed spike strips to disable the vehicle. Ultimately, officers were able to stop the vehicle on North Brush Street in Carbondale. After a short foot pursuit, the defendant was arrested.

This investigation was conducted by the Carbondale Police Department, with assistance from the Marion Police Department and Williamson County Sheriff's Department. Assistant State's Attorney Casey Bloodworth prosecuted this case.