



JACKSON COUNTY STATE'S ATTORNEY

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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MURPHYSBORO MAN SENTENCED TO PRISON **FOR RESIDENTIAL BURGLARY**

Michael C. Carr, Jackson County State's Attorney, announced today that a Murphysboro, Illinois, man entered a plea of guilty Tuesday, September 22, 2015, to Residential Burglary and was sentenced to prison.

Charles J. Swope, 33, of Murphysboro, who was charged in Jackson County Circuit Court with Residential Burglary, pled guilty pursuant to a plea agreement and was sentenced to serve eight (8) years in the Illinois Department of Corrections. The defendant will serve a three (3) year period of Mandatory Supervised Release upon his release from the Department of Corrections.

On August 26, 2011, officers with the Murphysboro Police Department were dispatched to a residence on McBride Lane in Murphysboro for the report of a burglary. The victim reported that upon returning home he noticed forced entry had been made into his residence and a number of personal items had been disturbed. The victim and officers noticed several drawers throughout the residence had been opened and the contents rummaged through. During the processing of the scene, officers collected items belonging to the victim that had been disturbed by the suspect. A checkbook box was collected and transferred to the Illinois State Police Forensic Science Centre, which was located in Carbondale, Illinois, at that time. A forensic scientist processed that box and developed latent fingerprint impressions on the box. Those latent prints were compared to known fingerprints of the defendant. The forensic scientist concluded that the latent prints belonged to the defendant, Charles Swope.

A warrant was issued for Swope's arrest on February 18, 2012, and the defendant avoided arrest on that warrant until March 20, 2015. The defendant was located in the State of Georgia and was extradited to Illinois to face these charges.

This investigation was conducted by the Murphysboro Police Department and the Illinois State Police Division of Forensic Services. Assistant State's Attorney Casey Bloodworth was responsible for the prosecution of this case.