



JACKSON COUNTY STATE'S ATTORNEY

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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JURY FINDS CARBONDALE MAN GUILTY OF AGGRAVATED BATTERY AND DISORDERLY CONDUCT

Michael C. Carr, Jackson County State's Attorney, announced today that Tony A. Johnson, was found guilty of Aggravated Battery to a Carbondale Police Officer and Disorderly Conduct for threatening to shoot a Carbondale business owner with a gun following a jury trial that concluded on Wednesday, January 14, 2015.

The evidence showed that Tony A. Johnson, 32, of Carbondale, IL, threatened to shoot a co-owner of Curbside on February 28, 2014 after a dispute erupted within the business. Carbondale Officers responded to Curbside and Johnson was arrested. Carbondale Police Officer Raul Contreras transported Johnson to the Carbondale Police Department for routine processing, but as Officer Contreras attempted to have Johnson exit his squad car, Johnson became aggressive with the officer and a struggle ensued. Officer Contreras was able to subdue Johnson on the ground, but Johnson kicked Officer Contreras in the head before additional officers arrived to assist. The aggravated battery was captured on video surveillance at the Carbondale Police Department.

Sentencing has been set for March 18, 2015 at 10:30 a.m. Aggravated Battery of a Police Officer is a Class 2 Felony, which is punishable by three to seven years in the Illinois Department of Corrections. Disorderly Conduct is a Class C Misdemeanor, which is punishable by one month in jail. Johnson remains in the Jackson County Jail at this time.

The investigation was conducted by the Carbondale Police Department. Assistant State's Attorneys Penny J. Pierson and Rebecca Blomer were responsible for the prosecution of this case.

