



JACKSON COUNTY STATE'S ATTORNEY

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Wednesday, June 20, 2016

MELVIN L. SANFORD, CARBONDALE, SENTENCED TO DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS FOR HOME INVASION

Michael C. Carr, Jackson County State's Attorney, announced today that a Carbondale man, Melvin L. Sanford, 29, was sentenced to serve 25 years in the Illinois Department of Corrections after having been found guilty of Home Invasion following a jury trial in Jackson County Circuit Court.

On December 11, 2014, Carbondale police officers were dispatched to a residence at the Cedar Court Trailer Park in Carbondale in reference to a report of a home invasion and armed robbery. The victims told officers that several black males wearing black clothing had entered their home by force and robbed them while holding the couple and their nine-year-old child at gunpoint. The suspects took the victims' cell phones when they left the residence. The officers were able to track the cell phone to a 1988 Cadillac registered to Melvin Sanford. Officers conducted a felony stop on the vehicle, and they arrested the three occupants, being Sanford, Terrance Vinson, and Elijah J. Mosley. During a subsequent search of the vehicle, the stolen cell phones were located in the vehicle. Other items found in the vehicle were consistent with the items reported taken by the victims.

Sanford was found guilty of Home Invasion charge, a Class X felony, and sentenced to serve 10 years plus a mandatory enhanced term of 15 years, due to a firearm being used in the commission of the offense, for a total sentence of 25 years. The defendant will serve a period of three years of mandatory supervised release following his incarceration.

Co-defendant Terrance Vinson was sentenced previously to serve 50 years plus a mandatory enhanced term of 15 years, due to a firearm being used in the commission of the offense, for a total sentence of 65 years. Elijah Mosley was sentenced to the Illinois Department of Corrections for seven years following a guilty plea.

The investigation was conducted by the Carbondale Police Department. Assistant State's Attorney Mark Hamrock was responsible for the prosecution of this case.

