



JACKSON COUNTY STATE'S ATTORNEY

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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MARION MAN SENTENCED TO PRISON FOR BURGLARY

Michael C. Carr, Jackson County State's Attorney, announced today that a Marion, Illinois man was sentenced to prison on July 11, 2016 for Burglary.

Victor T. Branch, 52, of Marion, IL, who was charged in Jackson County Circuit Court with one count of burglary, was sentenced to serve ten (10) years in the Illinois Department of Corrections. The defendant will serve a period of Mandatory Supervised Release of three (3) years upon his release from the Department of Corrections.

On March 20, 2016, officers with the Carbondale Police Department were conducting a follow up investigation of a burglary to the Islamic Worship Center, located on South Poplar Street, which occurred approximately one month prior. On March 20th, an officer observed the defendant enter the Worship Center, which appeared to be closed. The officer continued to monitor the scene and observed the defendant exit the Center approximately 30 seconds later. When the defendant exited the Center, he was in possession of a donation container from the Center. The defendant was apprehended and ultimately confessed to entering the Worship Center and admitted to stealing the donation container.

On July 11, 2016, the defendant pled guilty to burglary and was sentenced to prison. Due to the defendant's extensive criminal history, the defendant was sentenced as a class X felony offender.

This investigation was conducted by the Carbondale Police Department. Assistant State's Attorney Casey Bloodworth prosecuted this case.