



JACKSON COUNTY STATE'S ATTORNEY

Michael C. Carr, State's Attorney

Jackson County Courthouse • 1001 Walnut • Third Floor • Murphysboro, IL 62966
(618) 687-7200 • FAX (618) 687-7215

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Michael C. Carr, State's Attorney

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JOE G. COLEMAN, JR. CARBONDALE, FOUND GUILTY OF ROBBERY AND AGGRAVATED BATTERY

A Jackson County jury returned guilty verdicts on charges of Robbery and Aggravated Battery against Joe G. Coleman, Jr., 35, of Carbondale, Illinois, following a two-day trial, the State's Attorney for Jackson County, Illinois, Michael C. Carr, announced today.

On August 20, 2016, officers from the Carbondale Police Department were dispatched to North Westridge Drive and Concord Court in response to a report of a robbery. Officers who were in the area responded and while enroute to the scene observed a SUV leaving the area where the incident occurred and alerted other patrol officers of the location of that vehicle. When the initial responders arrived at the scene, they found a male victim who was bleeding from the left side of his face. The victim told police that he was walking home when he was approached by a male who asked him if he needed help. As the victim was speaking with this male, he was suddenly struck on the left side of his face by another person using a hand or an object. The two men then struggled with the victim while taking the victim's backpack. The assailants then ran away from the area. The victim had a cell phone in his pocket and immediately called the police. He was able to provide a physical description of his attackers and describe the property that was taken from him by force.

Other officers were able to quickly locate the SUV and followed the vehicle until it stopped in a residential area. Two male subjects matching the description provided by the victim occupied the vehicle. Police also observed items in the vehicle which matched the description of items taken from the victim as well as dark hooded sweatshirts matching the description given by the victim as that having been worn by his attackers. A wrench was also located in the pocket of one of the sweatshirts.

The victim, after having been treated by emergency responders, was driven to the location of the SUV where he positively identified Coleman as the person who struck him in the face. He also identified the property located in the SUV as the property taken from him. The victim then transported to Memorial Hospital of Carbondale for further medical treatment and later transferred to St. Louis for more extensive examination.

Joe G. Coleman, Jr. was arrested and taken into custody by the Carbondale Police and subsequently charged with Robbery, a Class 2 Felony; and Aggravated Battery, a Class 3 Felony.

Coleman is scheduled to be sentenced on March 29, 2018. He faces a maximum sentence of seven (7) years in the Illinois Department of Corrections on the charge of Robbery and up to five (5) years in the Illinois Department of Corrections on the charge of Aggravated Battery.

The Carbondale Police Department conducted the investigation in this case. Assistant State's Attorney Casey E.A. Bloodworth was responsible for the prosecution.