



JACKSON COUNTY STATE'S ATTORNEY

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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ROMONDO S. BOOTCHEE, MOUNT VERNON, INDICTED ON AGGRAVATED BATTERY WITH A FIREARM AND WEAPONS CHARGES

Michael C. Carr, Jackson County State's Attorney, announced today that Romondo S. Bootchee, age 21, of Mount Vernon, Illinois, was indicted by a Grand Jury in Jackson County of Aggravated Battery of a Firearm and Unlawful Possession of Weapons by a Felon from a shooting incident that occurred in Carbondale on October 21, 2017.

The Bill of Indictment alleges that on or about October 21, 2017, Bootchee knowingly and without lawful justification caused injury to the victim by discharging a firearm. The defendant was also indicted on charges of possessing a weapon by a felon, in that the defendant had been previously convicted of felony at the time he possessed the firearm.

Aggravated Battery with a Firearm is a Class X Felony, which is punishable by six (6) to thirty (30) years of imprisonment. It is a non-probationable offense.

Unlawful Possession of Weapons by a Felon is a Class 3 Felony, which is punishable by two (2) to (10) years of imprisonment. It is a non-probationable offense.

An Indictment is merely a charge and not evidence. Under the law, a defendant is presumed to be innocent of a charge until proved guilty beyond a reasonable doubt to the satisfaction of a jury.

The investigation is being pursued by the Carbondale Police Department. Assistant State's Attorney Casey E.A. Bloodworth is handling the prosecution.

A prosecutor has the responsibility of a minister of justice and not simply that of an advocate. This responsibility carries with it specific obligations to see that the defendant is accorded procedural justice and that guilt is decided upon the basis of sufficient evidence. Except for statements that are necessary to inform the public of the nature and extent of the prosecutor's action and that serve a legitimate law enforcement purpose, by Supreme Court Rule, the State's Attorney is not allowed to make statements about pending cases or investigations which would pose a serious and imminent threat to the fairness of the proceeding. [Rule 3.8 Special Responsibilities of a Prosecutor.](#)

*For a list of certain subjects which have been determined to pose such a threat to the fairness of the proceedings and for a list of subjects which do not, please see [Rule 3.6 Trial Publicity](#). For any press release involving a case which has not yet been tried, please note that: **a defendant is presumed to be innocent of a charge until proved guilty beyond a reasonable doubt to the satisfaction of the jury.***