



JACKSON COUNTY STATE'S ATTORNEY

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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JOSEPH L. PADEN AND JERED L. MCPIKE CHARGED WITH ARMED ROBBERY

Joseph L. Paden, 20, of Carbondale, Illinois, and Jered L. McPike, 18, of Carbondale, Illinois, were charged with two counts each of Armed Robbery, Michael C. Carr, Jackson County State's Attorney, announced today. Jered L. McPike was also charged with one count of Obstructing Justice. The Information filed in Jackson County Circuit Court alleges that on October 29, 2018, Paden and McPike, while acting together and while armed with a firearm, knowingly took property by force or the threat of force from individuals inside a business on East Walnut Street in Carbondale, Illinois.

An Information 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.

Armed Robbery is a Class X Felony which carries a potential sentence of six (6) to thirty (30) years' imprisonment. Since it is alleged that a firearm was used, fifteen (15) years' imprisonment must be added to any sentence imposed by the Court. At the time of this release, bond has not yet been set for either defendant. Each defendant will have an initial appearance on October 31, 2018, at 1:30. Bond will be set at that time.

The investigation into the incident is ongoing and is being pursued by the Carbondale Police Department. Because of the ongoing nature of the investigation, the State's Attorney's Office will have no additional comment concerning this case at this time.

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.***