



# JACKSON COUNTY STATE'S ATTORNEY

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **JERMAINE J. ROSS, CARBONDALE, SENTENCED TO THE DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS FOR UNLAWFUL USE OF WEAPONS BY A FELON AND RECKLESS DISCHARGE OF FIREARM**

Michael C. Carr, Jackson County State's Attorney, announced today that Jermaine J. Ross, age 21, was sentenced to the Illinois Department of Corrections for Unlawful Use of Weapons by a Felon and Reckless Discharge of a Firearm.

On May 12, 2019, at approximately 2:00 a.m., officers with the Carbondale Police Department were conducting foot patrol in the area of East Jackson Street. At that time, in excess of fifty people were exiting a bar at closing time and began walking to their cars in a southeast direction. Dozens of other individuals were also congregating in the parking lot south of the lounge near the Carbondale Pavilion.

As officers walked through the crowd, they observed a group of people who appeared as though they were going to fight in the southern part of the parking lot. As officers proceeded towards the group, they observed a male in a turquoise jacket, later identified as the defendant Jermaine Ross, point and fire a handgun four times in a northeast direction. Ross then ditched the gun under a nearby truck and fled the area, losing his shoes in the process.

Officers gave chase and found Ross hiding stomach-down in tall weeds in the back yard in the 300 block of East Jackson. Officers later located a loaded .22 caliber Taurus semi-automatic pistol and four .22 caliber spent shell casings under and by the truck where Ross ditched the gun.

Ross is a felon, having been convicted of Burglary in 2015 and Possession of a Controlled Substance in 2016.

On August 19, 2019, Ross pled guilty to one count of Unlawful Use of Weapons by a Felon, a Class 3 Felony, and Reckless Discharge of a Firearm, a Class 4 Felony. He was sentenced to nine years (9) years in the Illinois Department of Corrections on the Weapons charge and three

(3) years on the Reckless Discharge of a Firearm, followed by a one (1) year period of mandatory supervised release on each count.

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