



JACKSON COUNTY STATE'S ATTORNEY

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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RICKY D. RICHARDSON, CARBONDALE, FOUND GUILTY OF AGGRAVATED DISCHARGE OF A FIREARM TOWARDS A PERSON AND UNLAWFUL USE OF WEAPONS BY A FELON

Michael C. Carr, Jackson County State's Attorney, announced today, Ricky D. Richardson, age 32, was found guilty of one count of Aggravated Discharge of a Firearm Towards a Person and one count of Unlawful Use of Weapons by a Felon, following a three-day jury trial in Jackson County.

On the afternoon of June 24, 2019, Richardson arrived at the Oakland Cemetery and threatened to shoot one of the employees. Minutes later, Richardson located the employee in his car on his way home and fired one shot at the employee at the intersection of North Bridge and Owens streets with a .22 caliber semi-automatic pistol. On firing, the pistol fell apart, and the slide landed in the roadway. The shot missed the employee but impacted a residence on the north end of the street. Nobody was injured. Richardson fled the area

Minutes later officers located Richardson driving a car matching the description given by witnesses. Richardson was positively identified when he waved at the officer. After waving, Richardson fled from the officer at a high rate of speed. Richardson's car was later located parked on East Oak Street. A search of the vehicle revealed a spent .22 caliber shell casing in the driver's side interior door handle. Richardson could not be located at the at time. Richardson was apprehended a month later in Lake County Tennessee.

Richardson has multiple prior felony convictions including: Aggravated Robbery, Aggravated Assault, and possession of a Controlled Substance out of Dyers County, Tennessee, and Theft from a Person over \$300 out of Jackson County, Illinois.

Aggravated Discharge of a Firearm Towards a Person is a Class 1 Felony and carries a potential sentence of 4 to 15 years in the Illinois Department of Corrections. Unlawful Use of Weapons by a Felon is a non-probationable Class 3 Felony and carries a mandatory minimum sentence of 2 to 10 years in the Illinois Department of Corrections.

Richardson's bond was revoked and remains in the custody of the Jackson County Sheriff pending sentencing.

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