
December 9, 2014

Press Release - For Immediate Release

Defendant's Name: Austin Case
Age: 18
Residence: Sioux City, IA
Criminal File Number: 14-254
Convicted of: 2nd Degree Robbery (F4) 22-30-7
Date of Offense: June 28, 2014
Indictment Date: July 16, 2014
Arraignment Date: July 21, 2014
Change of Plea Date: September 15, 2014
Date of Sentence: November 17, 2014
Arresting Officer: Deputy Mike Bucholz – Union County Sheriff's Office
SA Brian Schnabel – South Dakota Division of Criminal Justice
Bond: \$25,000 c/s modified to \$10,000 C/S (on July 21, 2014)
Court Appointed Attorney: Rachel Rasmussen

Case Synopsis:

On June 28, 2014 it was reported that five individuals forced themselves into the apartment of the victim, who is a father and lives with his two children. Each of the five individuals had a mask over their face from the nose down. One or more of the five individuals held the victim up against the wall while others secured the doorway and others searched the residence for valuables. Victim described most of the individuals as being young, and the victim was able to identify the vehicle that they left with.

The investigations into this matter identified all five of the individuals that participated in the following offenses:

Ct 1: 2nd Degree Kidnapping F3 (For the victim - father)
Ct 2: 2nd Degree Kidnapping F3 (For the victim father's minor son)
Ct 3: 2nd Degree Kidnapping F3 (For the victim father's minor daughter)
Ct 4: 2nd Degree Robbery F4
Ct 5: 2nd Degree Burglary F3
Ct 6: 1st Degree Petty Theft M1

The investigation identified that Austin Case had some illegal dealings with victim (father's) adult son who does not live with the victim in this case. The victim's son apparently stole money from Austin Case in a failed drug transaction in Woodbury County Iowa. Case knew this and made several threatening statements to the person who had ripped him off and indicated that his father would suffer if he was not reimbursed the money that he was out. Case's threats were ignored and therefore, Case and his group made good on his threats against the father.

Sentencing Synopsis:

On count four, 2nd Degree Robbery, the charge that Austin Case plead guilty to, the Court sentenced Austin Case to a suspended ten year sentence to the South Dakota State Penitentiary with a term of five years of supervised probation. The Court further ordered that Austin Case

must pay all fines, court costs, prosecution costs, and court-appointed attorney fees. The Court further ordered that Case pay One Hundred and Twenty days in the Union County Jail. Case has the opportunity to do well on probation and have the staggered jail sentence suspended. Case was required to serve sixty days immediately with credit for the twenty eight days that he had previously served.

Criminal History:

This is Austin Case's first career felony conviction. The State encouraged the Court to not grant a suspended imposition of sentence due to the seriousness and violent nature of the crime that Austin Case and his step-father were committed to facilitate to further a illegal drug selling life-style.