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Defendant Pleads Guilty to Stealing Purse from Fast Food Restaurant



ALBANY, NY- District Attorney P. David Soares announced today that LANCE TREADWELL, 40, of Albany, pleaded guilty to (1) Count of Grand Larceny in the Fourth Degree, a Class E Felony, before the Honorable Peter A. Lynch in Albany County Court this morning.

On February 20, 2014 at the Kentucky Fried Chicken on Delaware Avenue in the City of Albany, the defendant approached a mother and her children and initiated a conversation with

them. After talking for a couple minutes, the defendant abruptly grabbed the victim's purse that was hanging off of a chair and ran out a side door. Several customers inside the restaurant at the time chased the defendant behind the building towards a fence, which he climbed over.

As the defendant was fleeing over the fence, he was observed dropping a bag which contained a medicine bottle inside of it that was turned over to officers from the Albany Police Department. An investigation by the officers attributed the contents of the bag to the defendant.

TREADWELL faces 1 ½ to 3 years in State Prison when sentenced on May 6, 2014.

“This case speaks to the recent increase in crimes of opportunity. Mr. Treadwell saw what he thought was an easy mark in a mother and her children; however, what he didn't expect was the immediate concern and intervention of citizens who refused to be bystanders. These people went out for good food, they were not expecting a side order of robbery,” commented District Attorney Soares.

Assistant District Attorney Steven Sharp of the Legal Affairs Unit is handling the prosecution of this case.

For more information please contact Cecilia Walsh (518) 275-4710.

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