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Brazen Burglar Found Guilty After Trial



ALBANY, NY – District Attorney P. David Soares today announced that ERICA THOMAS, 35, of Schenectady, was found guilty after a jury trial to (1) Count of Burglary in the Second Degree, a Class C Felony before Honorable Judge Joseph C. Teresi in Albany County Court today.

On July 5, 2011 at approximately 1:40am THOMAS did make unlawful entry into a residence in the City of Albany and proceeded to steal money from a victim who was sleeping inside next to his three year old daughter. The victim did wake up during this incident and began to struggle with THOMAS. At that point it is alleged that co-defendant ERNESTO SANTIAGO, 33, of Schenectady, did hurl an object to break through a sliding glass door to come to the aid of THOMAS. The victim was able to call 911 and neither the victim nor his daughter was injured.

THOMAS was remanded to the Albany County Correctional Facility and is scheduled to be sentenced on September 18, 2012. She faces 3 ½ to 15 years in State Prison.

The case against SANTIAGO is pending and awaiting a trial date.

Assistant District Attorney Matthew Hauf of the Major Crimes Unit handled the prosecution of this case.

For more information, please contact Cecilia Logue.

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All parties are presumed innocent until proven guilty.