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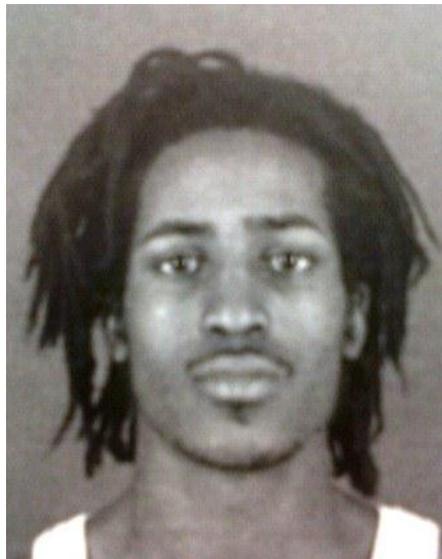
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: FRIDAY, MARCH 8, 2013

7 Years in State Prison for Home Burglary of Elderly Woman



ALBANY, NY - District Attorney P. David Soares today announced that ISRAEL BISHOP, 27, of Albany, was sentenced to 7 years in State Prison and 5 years of Post Release Supervision as a predicate violent felon before the Honorable Peter A. Lynch in Albany County Court this morning.

On February 1, 2013, BISHOP was found guilty after a jury trial of (1) Count of Burglary in the Second Degree, a Class C Felony.

This defendant and 3 co-defendants broke into the home of a 95 year old female resident before dawn on August 12, 2011 (the day after the victim's birthday). According to an accomplice who testified for the prosecution, all the conspirators wore green latex rubber gloves and brought bags with them, and the house had been scoped out prior to the burglary by one of the co-defendants who knew that an elderly woman lived there.

Entry was made by one of the co-defendants through a rear window, then a side door was opened by that defendant to let the others inside. The inside of the home was ransacked and several pieces of jewelry taken before Mrs. Jones woke up and the perpetrators fled out the side door. Police discovered the severed fingertip of a green latex glove in the driveway of the house and that was submitted to the lab where a CODIS hit with the defendant Israel Bishop was eventually made, this was confirmed by a court-ordered buccal swab from the defendant, which also matched the green fingertip. The rest of the gloves (without 1 tip) were found down the street on Forest, and Bishop was the major DNA contributor to those gloves.

In addition to the accomplice testimony and the DNA evidence, some property belonging to the victim's late husband, consisting of a gold pocket watch and a Mason pin were found in the defendant's Orange Street home.

The defendant went to trial before Judge Lamont in October, that case resulted in a hung jury.

The defendant is a predicate violent felon, having been convicted in Albany County Court in 2005 of Attempted Robbery in the Second Degree (plea), wherein he got 1 year.

In light of all the facts and circumstances, the People requested the maximum of 15 years, plus 5 years post-release supervision. The probation officer Darcy Katz also recommended the maximum sentence.

Judge Lynch, however, chose to impose the minimum allowable legal sentence of 7 years determinate and 5 years post-release supervision.

"The defendant is a predicate violent felon. He broke into the home of a 95 year old woman and stole her belongings, including her late husband's pocket watch and his Mason pin. She awoke to find them committing this crime. Armed with DNA evidence and witness testimony, we secured a conviction. The People asked for the maximum sentence of 15 years. Judge Lynch disagreed and gave the defendant the minimum sentence of 7 years," commented DA Soares.

Assistant District Attorney Benjamin Mastaitis from the Major Offenses Bureau handled the prosecution of the case.

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



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