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## Facebook Robber Sentenced to 9 Years in State Prison for Violent Felony



**ALBANY, NY-** District Attorney P. David Soares announced today that CEE-QUAN COLLIER-HUDSON, 20, of Albany, was sentenced to 9 years in State Prison before the Honorable Stephen Herrick in Albany County Court this morning.

On June 4, 2014, COLLIER-HUDSON pleaded guilty to (1) Count of Attempted Robbery in the First Degree, a Class C Violent Felony.

On November 22, 2013, the defendant arranged to meet with an individual with whom he communicated with over Facebook under the pretense of purchasing an iPhone. Once the victim gave the phone to the defendant to purchase, the defendant pulled up his shirt to show the victim that he had a handgun hidden in his waistband, and walked away with the phone without paying the victim.

The guilty plea entered by the defendant also satisfies charges that on November 28, 2013, the defendant, utilizing a different Facebook account, arranged to meet two individuals under the pretense of purchasing a PlayStation 3. When the victims met the defendant at a pre-arranged location, the defendant reached into the vehicle the victims were sitting in and grabbed the PlayStation 3 and fled. An unidentified man who was with the defendant pointed a gun at the victims and told them not to follow them.

This case was prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Steven Sharp of the Legal Affairs Bureau.

Users of Facebook, Craigslist, and other sites/forums that are used for buying and selling items should observe the following safety tips:

- Check the buyer/seller's profile after the meeting arrangements have been made. If the profile no longer exists, don't do business with them.
- If the buyer/seller suddenly changes the meeting place that was originally agreed upon, don't do business with them
- Always meet the buyer or seller in a public place where there are plenty of people. Never agree to meet on a side street or a place that is not well lit.
- Always take someone with you to the meeting place and let the buyer or seller know your plans. If you decide to go alone, advise someone of your location and return time prior to the meeting taking place
- Notify the police immediately if you observe any illegal or suspicious activity from the seller.

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

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