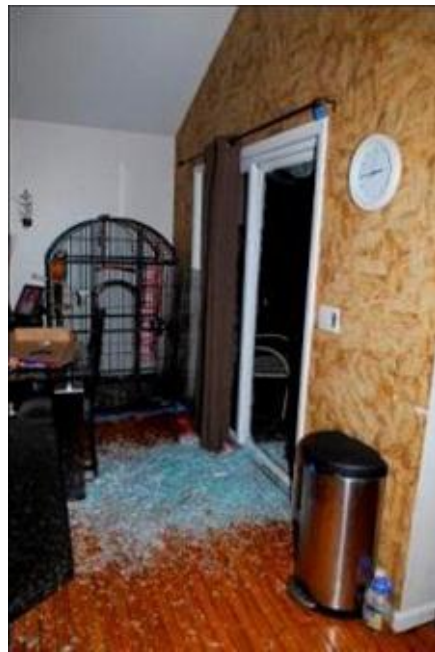




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## **Burglar Sentenced To 5 Years In State Prison**



**ALBANY, NY** – District Attorney P. David Soares today announced that ERNESTO SANTIAGO, 35, of Schenectady, was sentenced to 5 years in State Prison followed by 5 years of Post Release Supervision before the Honorable Thomas Breslin this morning in Albany County Supreme Court. On August 10, 2012, SANTIAGO was found guilty after a jury trial of (1) Count of Attempted Burglary in the Second Degree, a Class D Violent Felony.

On July 5, 2011, Co-Defendant ERICA THOMAS, 35, unlawfully entered 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 woke up during the incident and began to struggle with THOMAS. At that point SANTIAGO hurled an object to break through a sliding glass door to come to the aid of THOMAS. The victim was able to call 911, neither the victim nor his daughter were injured.

On September 18, 2012, THOMAS was sentenced to 9 ½ years in State Prison after being convicted after a jury trial of (1) Count of Burglary in the Second Degree, a Class C Violent Felony.

“Mr. Santiago and Miss Thomas will each have a long time to think about the consequences of their actions. Burglary is a crime that shatters the security of one’s residence and one that will be prosecuted aggressively in Albany County. I applaud the work of ADA Hauf in sending a message to those who are thinking about burglarizing a residence to reconsider, unless they plan on serving several years of their life in a state prison,” commented DA Soares.

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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