

MESSAGE FROM PROSECUTOR SHERRI BEVAN WALSH

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New Year's Day burglars found guilty

(July 16, 2010, Akron) ... Prosecutor Sherri Bevan Walsh announced today that Theodore Brooks, 29, of Akron and Brandon Lewis, 29 of Akron, were found guilty on Thursday, July 15, 2010, of one count of Burglary, a felony of the second degree. Brooks and Lewis were both immediately sentenced by Judge Patricia Cosgrove to five years in prison.

On January 1, 2010 in the early morning hours, a 33-year old Akron female heard a loud bang at her back door. When she heard the noise a second time, she jumped behind a large sectional couch and hid from the burglars. She heard the sound of three men breaking in and entering her home. All three men began looking for guns and valuables to steal. During their search of her home, she could hear them shouting and dumping the contents of her purse on the sectional couch. The men took the items they had collected and left through the back door. The victim went to a nearby window and watched as the three men left the house, allowing her to relay to 911 dispatchers the escape direction of the trio. The defendants were stopped after they ran from the location where they were spotted and the victim's property was found on the street. In addition, footprints left in the snow matched both defendant's shoes.

Both men were on federal parole after spending six years on a 2002 federal drug trafficking conviction. They were co-defendants on that case, too. The two face an additional sentence of between 32 and 36 months for violating federal parole for a total of eight years in prison.

The third burglar was never identified.