

Genesee County Prosecutor's Office David Leyton, Prosecutor



Jury Convicts Tow Truck Driver for Stealing Vehicle

FLINT -- Steven Ray Jeffries was found guilty today by a Genesee County jury for unlawfully towing away a Lincoln Navigator from a Mt. Morris Township driveway.

According to testimony at trial, Mt. Morris Township police responded to a complaint of a missing 1998 Lincoln Navigator in September of last year.

Several witnesses reported that a male suspect, later identified as Jeffries, loaded the Navigator onto the bed of a tow truck with the name "Steve's Towing" printed on the side of the truck.

The witnesses said the Navigator was partially hanging off the side of the truck and so the driver then backed the tow truck several times into a tree causing the Navigator to hit the tree. According to the witnesses, it appeared the tow truck driver was trying to bump the Navigator into a more secure position on the bed of the tow truck.

Jeffries, 46 (d.o.b. 6-11-1964) of Genesee Township, was convicted as charged with unlawful driving away of a motor vehicle which carries a penalty of up to five years in prison.

"I am very pleased with today's jury verdict," said Prosecutor Leyton. "Auto theft is a serious problem in our community and we in law enforcement are vigilant in our efforts to fight it."

A May 13, 2011 sentencing date has been set in Genesee County Circuit Court.