



Genesee County Prosecutor's Office David Leyton, Prosecutor



Flint Man Convicted of Breaking Into Home While Homeowner is Watching TV

FLINT - Genesee County Prosecutor David Leyton said that a jury has found a Flint man guilty of breaking into a home on the City's south side last summer while the homeowner and his wife were up watching TV.

Prosecutor Leyton said the case was investigated and prosecuted by his Southside Task Force which is funded by a federal Byrne Justice Assistance Grant and administered through the Michigan State Police.

According to the investigation and trial testimony, Randy Allen Lynch, 29 (d.o.b. 8-27-81), and Matthew James Marshall, 22 (d.o.b. 12-01-88) of Flint, were in the Circle Drive neighborhood near the Flint Golf Course in the early morning hours of July 22, 2010 looking for homes to burglarize.

A neighborhood resident was alerted when he heard what sounded like somebody trying to open his locked window. When he looked outside, his neighbor's motion detector light was activated and he saw two men, later identified as Lynch and Marshall, removing a window screen and trying to enter the neighbor's home through the window.

The witness called 9-1-1 and police were dispatched to the area where they found Lynch halfway through the window opening while being boosted up by Marshall. Lynch was apprehended on the spot and Marshall was caught after a brief foot chase. The homeowner of the house being broke into and his wife were inside the home at the time of the break-in watching television.

"This case is a testament to the importance of citizens being alert and observant of suspicious activity in their neighborhoods and willing to get involved in reporting crimes to law enforcement," said Prosecutor Leyton.

"The defendant in this case has been a threat to the safety and security of Flint residents for years due to his criminal history and thanks to the efforts and vigilant acts of our witnesses, he now faces a lengthy term behind bars," he continued.

"I also want to commend the Flint police and my assistant prosecutors who work under a federal Byrne JAG stimulus grant as members of my South Side Task Force for their good work and diligence on this case," Prosecutor Leyton said.

Marshall plead guilty on January 21, 2011 to Home Invasion 2nd for his role in the home invasion while Lynch took his case before a jury. After a day-and-a-half trial, a jury returned a guilty verdict this afternoon against Lynch for Home Invasion 1st.

While Home Invasion 1st Degree carries a maximum penalty of up to 20 years in prison, Lynch will be sentenced on May 5th with habitual offender fourth status which could result in a term of up to life in prison.

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