

## **MESSAGE FROM PROSECUTOR SHERRI BEVAN WALSH**

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### **Akron Man Guilty of Aggravated Robbery, Asked Store to Replace Stolen Property**

(May 16, 2012... Akron) ... Summit County Prosecutor Sherri Bevan Walsh announced today that a jury found Rayonte L. Jones, 26, of Lakeshore Blvd. in Akron, guilty of Aggravated Robbery with a firearm specification, a felony of the first degree; Receiving Stolen Property, a felony of the fifth degree; and Misuse of a Credit Card, a misdemeanor of the first degree.

Early on the morning of January 3, William Weems, 20, of West Thornton Street in Akron, robbed a man at gunpoint of his wallet and cell phone in the Akron General Hospital parking lot while Jones waited in a nearby car. Jones and Weems then went straight to Wal-Mart and Target, where they were captured on store security videos using the victim's credit card. Later that afternoon Jones and Weems used the victim's credit card at Macy's at Chapel Hill Mall. While leaving the mall, they robbed a 17-year-old boy of a watch he had just purchased at the mall. Weems, the primary aggressor in this robbery, pleaded guilty to the resulting charge of Robbery; Jones was acquitted.

Later that day, a stroller Jones purchased from Target fell out of their vehicle's trunk on the expressway. Jones called Target and claimed he accidentally left the stroller in the store that afternoon. The next day, Jones and Weems attempted to return the watch they stole the previous day, but the store owner knew about the robbery and called security. Jones and Weems left before security arrived. They then went to Target to get a replacement stroller, but the store security had identified him as a thief when he called the night before. Police arrested Jones at the store. Weems escaped but later turned himself in.

Weems pleaded guilty to Aggravated Robbery with a firearm specification, a felony of the first degree, and Robbery, a felony of the second degree, on March 14. Judge Amy Corrigan Jones will sentence Weems on May 23 and Jones on May 29.