

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

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### **15 Years for Attempted Robbery at Family Dollar**

(October 18, 2013... Akron) ... Summit County Prosecutor Sherri Bevan Walsh announced today that Joseph K. Burnett, Jr., 28, of Copley Road in Akron, pleaded guilty to Aggravated Robbery, a felony of the first degree; Kidnapping, a felony of the first degree; Having Weapons Under Disability, a felony of the third degree; and a firearm specification.

On the afternoon of March 18, an employee at the Family Dollar on Vernon Odom Blvd. in Akron noticed Burnett acting suspiciously. She alerted a second employee and called 911 when Burnett pulled the hood on his sweatshirt over his head. Burnett pulled out a gun on a cashier. He then directed both employees and customers, five people in all, to move from the front of the store to the back, and then to the front again so they could open the store's safe. The police arrived as Burnett waited for an employee to open the safe, and he ran out the back door. The police chased him and quickly found him hiding under the porch of a nearby house.

Judge Jane Davis immediately sentenced Burnett to 15 years in prison. The sentence includes three years in prison for probation violations.