

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY
BLUE RIDGE JUDICIAL CIRCUIT



SHANNON WALLACE
District Attorney

Cherokee County Justice Center
90 North Street, Suite 390
Canton, GA 30114

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT: Cyndi Crossland
Public Information Officer
cbcrossland@cherokeega.com
770-479-1488

DeKalb County man sentenced to 20 years, 15 to serve for armed robbery and aggravated assault
State vs. Moses Albert Diamond

January 22, 2020 – Stone Mountain resident Moses Albert Diamond, 19, was recently sentenced for charges related to an armed robbery of two Woodstock teens.

The incident occurred on October 6, 2018, at a small park off River Glen Drive in Woodstock. That evening, the defendant and an unidentified co-conspirator brandished weapons to steal two Apple iPhones and a wallet from two teenagers, who were ordered to lay face down in the parking lot and told they'd be shot if they got up.

Diamond and his accomplice fled the scene in a green minivan driven by Diamond's sister, Chloe Castell. Cherokee Sheriff's Office deputies tracked the minivan to a Kennesaw hotel and arrested both Diamond and Castell.

During the three-day trial in October, the State called seven witnesses to testify and presented evidence including social media images of Diamond holding a handgun that resembled the weapon used in the crime.

The Cherokee County jury deliberated for about two hours before finding Diamond guilty of all four counts, including two counts of armed robbery and two counts of aggravated assault.

"This defendant has no respect for the laws of Georgia. He involved his teenage sister in this senseless crime, then refused to identify his accomplice. And, during the trial, he tried to influence his sister's testimony," said Deputy Chief Assistant District Attorney Zachary H. Smith.

At the hearing on December 19, Deputy Chief ADA Smith recommended a sentence of 20 years to serve 15.

Judge Ellen McElyea agreed with the State's recommendation and said she hoped this sentence would deter others from committing similar crimes. Judge McElyea also prohibited Diamond from having contact with Castell and any known gang member or associate.

"We're pleased with the outcome of this trial and the sentence," said Cherokee County District Attorney Shannon Wallace. "This recidivist offender came to an isolated park in Woodstock and used a handgun to commit armed robbery. Those teens will forever remember the horror of being forced to lie face down while being threatened with their lives."

At a hearing in July, Castell pled guilty to two counts of robbery. Senior Judge John Sumner sentenced her to 8 years, with the first 180 days to be served in confinement and the remainder on probation. She was ordered no contact with the victims and her co-defendant.

The Office of the District Attorney for the Blue Ridge Judicial Circuit is committed to seeking justice, acting with integrity, and collaborating with partner agencies in the criminal justice system in order to protect the citizens of Cherokee County and the State of Georgia.

###