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News Release

For Immediate Release
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Jury Convicts David Crockett Robinson of 2017 Queen Street Armed Robbery

Charleston, S.C. – Sept. 10, 2021--Solicitor Scarlett Wilson announced that a Charleston County jury has found David Crockett Robinson (DOB 12/14/1982, 38 years old) guilty of armed robbery and possession of a firearm during a violent crime. The jury handed down its verdict Thursday afternoon following a three-day trial. Upon conviction of Armed Robbery, Robinson faced a minimum sentence of ten years up to a maximum of thirty years. The Honorable R. Ferrell Cothran, Jr., who presided over the trial, sentenced Robinson to twenty-seven years while running a sentence of five years on the gun charge concurrently to the twenty-seven-year sentence. A consideration in Judge Cothran's sentence was Robinson's previous convictions for robbery, assault and battery of a high and aggravated nature, and burglary (among other convictions).

Assistant Solicitors Chad Simpson and Phillip Abshire prosecuted the case. Simpson recounted that the incident occurred around 6:30 p.m. on May 7, 2017, on Queen Street. At that time, the victim, a 26-year-old female in Charleston for an extended professional stay working with the Spoleto Festival, was walking to meet a friend for dinner when she was approached by the defendant from behind and told not to scream. When she turned around, he stuck a firearm in her side and began taking her belongings. Initially, she bargained with Robinson for him to allow her to keep her laptop, which contained all of her work. Robinson responded by threatening to shoot her, so she relented.

Following Robinson's flight from the scene, the young woman was quickly assisted by other citizens who contacted the City of Charleston Police Department. Officers responded quickly and, as they gathered information from the victim, she informed them that she had an idea for how they could catch the assailant. She recalled losing her phone before in New York City and using a phone tracking application to watch it travel Manhattan on city bus before they could track it down. She suggested the officers utilize the same application to track her recently stolen phone.

C.P.D. Officers were quick to utilize her suggestion, and the phone was electronically tracked to the area of Meeting and Calhoun Streets. As the phone moved, locations were conveyed to patrol officers, who located a vehicle moving consistently with the phone's locations. Upon conducting a traffic stop on this vehicle, the passenger fled from the front seat into a wooded area. Several of the victim's possessions were located in and around the passenger seat of the vehicle. David Robinson was eventually detained near the wooded area, the victim's telephone still on his person. His fingerprints also linked him to the passenger seat of the recently vacated automobile. At trial, the defendant asserted that he was misidentified by police.

The Ninth Circuit Solicitor's office is especially appreciative of the victim of this crime, both for her quick thinking during the incident and her persevering cooperation through countless delays in the calling of this case. The office also appreciates the hard work of the City of Charleston Police Department, as well as the members of the jury and Judge Cothran for their time and effort applied to this case. "David Crockett Robinson's prior criminal history indicates an individual who poses a district danger to the people of Charleston and the interests of public safety are furthered by this conviction," added Assistant Solicitor Chad Simpson.

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