

OFFICE OF THE STATE ATTORNEY THIRD JUDICIAL CIRCUIT OF FLORIDA

JOHN F. DURRETT, State Attorney

Serving the Counties of Suwannee, Hamilton, Dixie, Lafayette, Taylor, Madison and Columbia

August 19, 2024

Press Release

State Attorney John F. Durrett announces that Jonathan Branch, having been found guilty by a jury of Burglary of a Dwelling causing more than \$1,000 damage while masked on August 19, 2024 in Dixie County, was sentenced to 25 years in the Florida Department of Corrections (DOC).

Branch along with co-defendant, Chris Akins, who had already pled guilty and was sentenced to 15 years DOC, broke a window in a home and did steal alcohol and security cameras. Both defendants attempted to mask their identities by wearing a shower curtain that was stolen from a downstairs bathroom but all was captured on a security camera. The two tried to stealthily remove the security cameras while both were under one shower curtain but constantly had to peak out, showing their face, to find the next camera. Together these two defendants caused more than \$4,000 of damage to the victim's home.

The State of Florida was represented by Assistant State Attorney Jarrett Thomas and Certified Legal Intern Caleb Currie

The Honorable Mark Feagle conducted the sentencing.