

## OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY COUNTY OF KERN

CIVIC CENTER JUSTICE BUILDING
1215 TRUXTUN AVENUE
BAKERSFIELD, CALIFORNIA 93301
(661) 868-2340, FAX: (661) 868-2700

CYNTHIA J. ZIMMER
DISTRICT ATTORNEY

ANDREA S. KOHLER
ASSISTANT DISTRICT ATTORNEY

JOSEPH A. KINZEL
ASSISTANT DISTRICT ATTORNEY

April 26, 2021

## MEDIA ADVISORY

CONTACT: DDA Cole Sherman (661) 868-2737 FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE Approved by JAK Press Release #21-33

Re: Trial Conviction: People v. Shane Carr and Hunter Thomas: BF166502 B+E

On April 23, 2021, a Kern County jury found **Shane Carr** and **Hunter Thomas** guilty of kidnapping for robbery, first-degree robbery in concert, first-degree robbery, and first-degree burglary regarding a November 2016 home invasion robbery. Shane Carr was also found guilty of being a felon in possession of ammunition. Following this conviction, on April 26, 2021, Shane Carr entered a plea of no contest to committing a separate home invasion robbery with Michael Parker and Juan Delgado in February 2017. On April 26, 2021, Carr, Parker, and Delgado pled no contest to first-degree robbery in concert regarding the February 2017 case. These cases were prosecuted by DDA Cole Sherman.

On November 14, 2016 at about 3:45 a.m., Shane Carr, Hunter Thomas, and a third accomplice forced their way into a married couples' home in southeast Bakersfield. Upon hearing the suspects enter, one of the victims called 911 but was only able to shout her address before her phone was taken away. While inside the home, Carr and Thomas threatened the victims with replica handguns that appeared real and demanded money and other property. During the robbery, the victims were forced at gunpoint to move to a back corner bedroom. While the victims were inside the back bedroom, Officers from the Bakersfield Police Department responded to the residence, knocked on the front door, and announced their presence. At this time, the victims were kept inside the bedroom at gunpoint and forced to remain quiet by the third accomplice as Carr and Thomas fled out the back of the residence. In their haste to escape, Carr and Thomas dropped a replica firearm and a black cloth mask in the backyard of the victim's residence. These items were later located by the Bakersfield Police Department, tested by the Kern Regional Crime Laboratory, and found to contain Carr and Thomas' DNA.

Additionally, the court found true allegations that Carr had suffered a prior conviction for a serious or violent "strike" offense for first-degree burglary and that Carr was on bail at the time he committed the November 2016 crimes.

On February 6, 2017 at about 5:30 a.m., Shane Carr, Michael Parker, and Juan Delgado broke into an elderly couples' home through a back, kitchen door. The suspects pointed replica handguns that appeared real at the male victim and forced him to get on the ground. The suspects stole property from the man and from inside the home before fleeing. After the suspects left, the male victim called 911 and Officers from the Bakersfield Police Department responded to the victims' home. Officers quickly and successfully tracked some of the stolen property to Carr, Parker, and Delgado, who were inside Carr's truck at a nearby intersection. Officers searched Carr's truck and located the victims' stolen property and multiple replica handguns.

Advised of the verdict, District Attorney Cynthia Zimmer commented: "Home invasion burglary and robbery are terrifying events that affect victims for a lifetime. Those who choose to bring violence and terror into the homes of innocent victims are deserving of the lengthy prison terms that are reserved for such serious and violent crimes."

Carr faces up to 31 years-to-life in prison and Thomas faces up to 9 years-to-life in prison at their sentencing.

Parker and Delgado will each receive 9 years in prison based on their plea agreement.

Sentencing for all defendants is scheduled for June 16, 2021 before the Honorable John W. Lua.