

## **PRESS RELEASE**

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On July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2015, Levi Joseph Terry, 33, of Whitesboro, was sentenced 25 years in prison on each of three charges of Burglary of a Habitation, Burglary of a Building, and Theft of Property. The sentences, which were pursuant to a plea agreement reached by Terry with the Grayson County District Attorney's Office, was imposed by a visiting judge, Judge Scott McDowell, sitting in the 397th District Court. The sentences will run concurrently.

On November 9<sup>th</sup>, 2013, Grayson County Sheriff's Office received a report of a burglary at a hunting lease camp site on FM 901 in Whitesboro. The tenants of the hunting lease reported that approximately \$3,400 worth of hunting equipment and a green Nissan truck had been taken.

On November 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2013, deputies responded to a burglary alarm at a metal shop located on FM 901 in Whitesboro and found someone had forced entry into the shop and stolen approximately \$1,500 worth of tools. Witnesses from the scene told Deputy Hall that a yellow Dodge truck had been seen around the metal shop at the time of the burglary, and that the witnesses had tried to follow the truck, but were unsuccessful.

The day after the second burglary at the metal shop, Levi Terry made a report to Cooke County deputies that his truck had been stolen. Terry described his stolen vehicle as a yellow Dodge truck. The next day, deputies responded to a call that a truck was on fire only a few miles from the location of the burglaries in Whitesboro. The truck's vehicle identification number matched Terry's yellow Dodge truck. Grayson County Sheriff's Investigator J.D. Hudman, who knew Terry to have a long history of theft, found the circumstances suspicious. Acting on his suspicions, Hudman met with Terry at his house to further investigate the "stolen" truck. While at Terry's house, Hudman spotted a propane tank with a name spray painted on it. The name was the victim's name from the hunting camp burglary.

Investigator Hudman later interviewed Terry at Whitesboro Police Department.

After initially denying any involvement in the burglaries, Terry eventually confessed to both burglaries and to burning his own yellow Dodge truck. Terry said he burned the truck because he was followed by a witness after the metal shop burglary. Terry also confessed to stealing the green Nissan truck from the hunting site.

Terry has an extensive criminal history in multiple counties, with seven prior convictions related to the possession or distribution of narcotics, one felony conviction for possessing chemicals with the intent to manufacture narcotics, one burglary conviction, one felony theft conviction and one felony conviction for unlawful possession of a firearm by a felon.

“This was great police work by our sheriff’s office,” said Grayson County District Attorney Joe Brown. “Investigator Hudman was thorough, and showed great instinct in connecting these burglaries and the suspicious behavior of this suspect. Folks are just tired of the repeat burglaries, and the sentence reflects that.”

Assistant District Attorney Jeremy Wood prosecuted the case. Connell was represented by Sherman attorney Don Jarvis.