

Office of the Prosecuting Attorney
County of Oakland

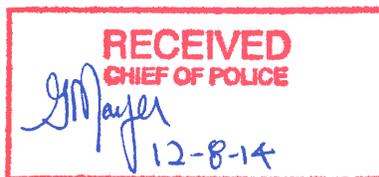


JESSICA R. COOPER
Prosecutor

Paul T. Walton
Chief Assistant Prosecutor

December 5, 2014

Gary Mayer, Chief of Police
Troy Police Department
500 W Big Beaver
Troy MI 48084



DETECTIVE MICHELLE COONEY
POLICE OFFICER KATE RALZKA
MICHELLE AND KATE - THANK YOU
BOTH FOR DOING SUCH A GOOD JOB
ON THE COURT ROOM PORTION
OF THIS INCIDENT AND BRINGING
THIS FELON TO JUSTICE.

Re: People v James Mell
CR 2013-244740-FC

Dear Chief Mayer:

This case involved the robbery of a 71-year-old woman in broad daylight in the parking lot of the Alibi Restaurant on January 9, 2013 by a vicious and remorseless criminal. The investigation and apprehension of the defendant was the result of an investigation which presented many challenges. The trial that followed presented a number of difficult issues. Following an arduous trial, the defendant was convicted and sentenced to a lengthy term in prison.

The outcome in this case was the direct result of the outstanding police work on the part of responding officers, evidence technicians, investigators and surveillance officers.

I am especially grateful for the efforts of Det. Michelle Cooney. Not only did she secure an admission from the defendant which was critical to the conviction, as officer-in-charge, her steady hand on the tiller during the rough seas of the trial process made all the difference in this case. The jury complimented her on her investigative abilities and professional excellence. I join in that assessment.

The competence and dedication to duty displayed by the personnel involved in this case are in the finest tradition of your department. I know that the citizens of your city sleep soundly at night because officers of this caliber watch over them. It is an honor to serve alongside the members of the Troy Police Department and I look forward to our next case together.

Sincerely,

JESSICA R. COOPER
PROSECUTING ATTORNEY

Jason D. Pernick
Assistant Prosecuting Attorney

JDP/sb

cc: Det. Michelle Cooney