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*****MEDIA ALERT*****

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JURY REACHES GUILTY VERDICT IN 25 MINUTES IN WALMART THEFT CASE

Evansville, IN – Prosecutor Diana Moers announces that on June 27, 2024, a jury found Cameron Michael Reine guilty of Theft, a Level 6 Felony. The Honorable Judge Robert J. Pigman of the Vanderburgh County Superior Court presided.

On April 2, 2024, the Eastside Walmart Asset Protection team were monitoring the self-checkout lanes when they spotted a male, Cameron Michael Reine, and a female accomplice attempting to shoplift. The two were using a scheme of bypassing the shelf-checkout scanners while only scanning certain barcodes and bypassing others. They were swiftly caught by Walmart's Asset Protection Investigator Young and confronted at the exit doors. The Defendant was taken into custody on-scene by the Evansville Police Department.

The State presented testimony from Investigator Young, and the jury reached a guilty verdict in less than 25 minutes. At the time of the crime, Cameron Reine was on probation for Theft and Forgery, as well as having a parole violation in another case for Burglary.

Prosecutor Moers stated: "Retail theft is an issue that affects us all- not only in increased prices but if it is not enforced and prosecuted then business owners will look elsewhere to open their shops and our communities will suffer. Retail theft is rising nationally and is increasingly being used to fund organized crime- although that was not the case here. But the lesson remains the same that shop owners should remain diligent, report theft to law enforcement, and provide all camera footage quickly to ensure we are enforcing the law and deterring this harmful crime. I commend the officers and Walmart for doing just that in this case to stop a repeat offender."

Prosecutor Moers thanks her Deputy Prosecutor John Bober for representing the State in this case, the Evansville Police Department Officers who responded to the scene, the Walmart Asset Protection team for their diligence in keeping the community honest, and her support staff for their assistance in the case.

Sentencing is scheduled for July 1, 2024, in front of the Honorable Judge Robert J. Pigman of the Vanderburgh County Superior Court.

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