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Jury Finds Goodrich Guilty of Robbing Rite Aid Store Multiple Times; Pepper Spraying Employee
People v. Jonathan Goodrich: Kern County Superior Court Case BF200491A

(Bakersfield) - Kern County District Attorney Cynthia Zimmer announced a significant conviction in a robbery case today. On April 29, 2025, in a case prosecuted by Deputy District Attorney Louis Jameson, a Kern County jury found Jonathan Goodrich guilty of three counts of robbery, two counts of using tear gas as a weapon, one count of attempted robbery, and one count of petty theft. Goodrich was acquitted of one count of shoplifting. The court also found true that Goodrich had two prior strike convictions, making this a third strike case.

Between July 15th to July 25th of 2024, Goodrich entered the Rite Aid located on 34th Street in Bakersfield to steal cigarettes. On July 15th, Goodrich entered the store, took a can of pepper spray, and sprayed the employees in the face so he could steal cigarettes from behind the counter. On July 20th Goodrich ordered an accomplice to steal cigarettes while he intimidated a Rite Aid employee. On July 22nd, Goodrich threatened to spray the victim from the July 15th incident again, causing her to not interfere with his theft. On July 24th the store employee attempted to hold the doors closed to prevent Goodrich from entering the store, but he was able to force his way inside. He attempted to walk behind the counter to steal more cigarettes, but was chased away before he could grab any. Lastly on July 25th, he entered the store one last time to steal cigarettes.

On April 25, 2024, officers from the Bakersfield Police Department were dispatched to Rite Aid and found Goodrich carrying multiple packets of cigarettes in his hands and quickly arrested him. All of Goodrich's crimes were captured on video surveillance, showing him stealing cigarettes and using pepper spray on the employees. All three victims from the robberies testified in court and identified Goodrich as the perpetrator.

District Attorney Cynthia Zimmer commented on the conviction, stating; "Goodrich has proven time and time again that he is a persistent threat to public safety. Even after having multiple prior serious and violent convictions, he repeatedly targeted victims at the same store for multiple violent crimes. Three strikes laws exist precisely to address career criminals like Goodrich, and the life sentences that result for

third-strike offenders are essential to helping keep our communities safe.”

Sentencing is set for May 28, 2025, before the Honorable David Zulfa in Department 18 of the Kern County Superior Court. As a third-strike offender with prior strike convictions for robbery and assault with a deadly weapon, Goodrich faces elevated sentencing that includes multiple life sentences.

Jonathan Goodrich:

