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Friendly's Restaurant Robber Pleads Guilty after His DNA Was Found on Duct Tape Used to Tie Up Restaurant Workers



ALBANY, NY - District Attorney P. David Soares announced today that DUMEL TUCKER, 21, of Rensselaer, pleaded guilty to (1) Count of Robbery in the First Degree, a Class B Felony, before Honorable Judge Stephen W. Herrick in Albany County Court yesterday morning.

On July 24, 2011, three accomplices robbed the Friendly's Restaurant on 737 Loudon Road in

the Town of Colonie at gunpoint. While inside, they gathered the five employees that were working at the time, duct taped their arms and legs to restrain them, and took various properties from each of them, including cash and cell phones. They also took money from the restaurant safe.

The Colonie Police Department responded, and was able to retain the duct tape as evidence. The duct tape was sent to the New York State Police Laboratory to be tested for any DNA evidence.

In 2013, the DNA developed from the collected duct tape was matched to a profile in the state database of an inmate that had recently entered the State Prison system. The inmate, DUMEL TUCKER, was convicted in June 2013 for Robbery in the First Degree for an incident in Kings County. TUCKER was sentenced to serve 7 ½ years in State Prison for that crime. Upon entering the prison system, TUCKER was mandated to supply his DNA to the database, resulting in the positive hit from the Colonie Friendly's robbery.

TUCKER pleaded guilty to the robbery in court yesterday morning and faces up to 8 years in State Prison, to be followed by 5 years of Post-Release Supervision, when sentenced on January 27, 2015.

“When this defendant entered the Friendly's Restaurant that day, he did so with every intention of taking what did not belong to him. What he did not realize was that he was leaving something behind: his DNA,” commented DA David Soares.

Assistant District Attorney Matthew Hauf of the Major Offenses Unit prosecuted this case.

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