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Press Release

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Jury Sentences Serial Robber to 60 Years

A 23-year-old Fort Worth man has been sentenced to 60 years in prison for his role in the robbery of a fast-food restaurant two years ago.

It took jurors just 30 minutes on Wednesday to convict Justin M. Williams of aggravated robbery for holding up a Fort Worth Whataburger. On Thursday, the jury deliberated about 1 1/2 hours in assessing the 60-year prison term plus a \$10,000 fine.

During the trial in state district Judge Ruben Gonzalez's court, prosecutors Anndi Risinger and Elizabeth Beach presented evidence that, in the early morning hours of May 20, 2010, Williams and Devaughn Bryant robbed two Whataburger cashiers

at gunpoint before fleeing the scene.

A *Star-Telegram* newspaper delivery man followed the robbers, one of whom fired at the man's car, hitting it six times—one shot missed the man's chest by mere inches.

During the punishment phase of the trial, jurors learned that Williams had committed three additional aggravated robberies—two at convenience stores and one at an apartment.

In the apartment robbery, the victim, a recent TCU MBA graduate, was shot in the abdomen and bicep but survived.

The jury also heard that Williams burglarized Arlington Heights High School then fled on foot



Justin M Williams

before being taken down by police in the middle of Interstate 30.

In September, Williams' co-defendant in the robberies, Devaughn Bryant, also received a 60-year sentence from a Tarrant County jury.

"The jurors' verdict sends a message that the continued commission of violent offenses will not be tolerated in this county," said prosecutor Anndi Risinger. "The jury did the right thing, and we are very satisfied with their verdict.."

"The jury learned that ten individuals have been the victims of this defendant's violent acts," said prosecutor Elizabeth Beach. "The jury rightly determined that this defendant's career of violent crime would end today."