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**DETROIT MAN FOUND GUILTY OF CARJACKING AND OTHER
RELATED OFFENSES**

Deandre James, 25, of Detroit, Michigan was found guilty yesterday by a federal jury in Detroit, Michigan on charges of carjacking and other related offenses United States Attorney Terrence Berg announced.

The jury deliberated for less than three hours before returning the verdict, concluding a trial that began on August 4, 2009, with jury selection before United States District Judge Bernard A. Friedman.

The evidence presented at trial established that on April 7, 2009, James stole a car at gunpoint from a couple in Detroit. The carjacking led to a cross-border pursuit, after James drove the stolen vehicle onto the Ambassador Bridge. Once on the Ambassador Bridge, James avoided inspection and drove against traffic, nearly striking a federal officer as well as other vehicles that were driving inbound from Canada. The federal officer who was nearly run down fired his weapon at James, but James was ultimately able to flee into Canada. Windsor Police ultimately apprehended James approximately 20 minutes after he fled into Windsor. Two days after the incident, a citizen reported that she had found a gun near the location where James was apprehended, which turned out to be the gun that was used in the carjacking and was discarded by James before he was spotted by Windsor Police.

U.S. Attorney Berg stated, "Carjacking is a violent crime that endangers the lives of innocent people. In this case, the crime not only put the lives of citizens at risk, but also threatened the safety of the officers patrolling our border." Berg commended the U.S. and Canadian law enforcement agencies that were involved in arresting James and investigating this case, including the Department of Homeland Security (Office of Inspector General), U.S. Customs and Border Protection, Canada Border Services Agency, and the Windsor Police Department.

The defendant faces a maximum term of imprisonment of 15 years on the charge of carjacking, a five year mandatory minimum sentence on the firearm charge, up to five years on the charge of high speed flight, up to eight years for assault on a federal employee and up to ten years for being a felon in possession of a firearm. The actual sentence imposed if convicted would depend on a number of factors, including the defendant's criminal record (if any), and advisory Sentencing Guidelines.

The case was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Jeanine Jones and Louis Gabel. The case was investigated by the Department of Homeland Security, the Detroit Police Department, the Canadian Border Service Agency and the Windsor Police Service.