



## OFFICE OF THE SAINT LOUIS COUNTY ATTORNEY

**MARK S. RUBIN** COUNTY ATTORNEY

### NEWS RELEASE

March 18, 2015

**CONTACT:** Mark Stodghill, County Attorney's Office  
St. Louis County Courthouse  
Duluth, MN 218-726-2035

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

### **Man convicted of 7 crimes in home invasion assault**

A Duluth man who invaded a woman's home as she slept, assaulted her with a glass vase, and stole jewelry, among other items, was found guilty Tuesday night of all seven crimes he was charged with.

Tommy Ray Morgan Sr., 28, was convicted in State District Court of first-degree assault, first-degree aggravated robbery, first-degree burglary, and three counts of financial credit card fraud for using the woman's stolen credit card. The St. Louis County jury deliberated about 4 1/2 hours. Jurors then had to deliberate a second time to decide if there were aggravating factors to warrant the defendant receiving a longer-than-guideline prison sentence.

St. Louis County prosecutor Jon Holets had filed a pre-trial motion seeking an enhanced sentence based on the aggravating factor that the crimes were committed in the victim's zone of privacy. The jury needed only 20 minutes to decide an enhanced sentence was warranted. The statutory maximum sentence for the three most serious crimes Morgan is convicted of is 20 years in prison.

"It was a solid investigation by the Duluth Police Department," Holets said. "This was a particularly heinous act because of the fact that he invaded the privacy of the victim's bedroom in the middle of the night. It's everyone's worst nightmare."

Morgan also faces charges in several other pending cases, including robbing a Duluth restaurant at gunpoint in the daylight hours of April 29. After being accused of that crime he was placed on Intensive Supervised Release, requiring him to wear a GPS monitor on his ankle. Duluth police and Arrowhead Regional Corrections checked with the company that monitored Morgan's GPS tracking bracelet and confirmed that Morgan was in the victim's residence during the robbery. It was also determined that he cut the monitor off the day after the home invasion.

"This successful prosecution is a result of our partners in law enforcement and Arrowhead Regional Corrections working together with us to achieve justice for a really brave woman," said St. Louis County Attorney Mark Rubin.

###

