

Office of the State Attorney
Fourth Judicial Circuit of Florida
www.sao4th.com



311 West Monroe Street
Jacksonville, Florida 32202-4242
TEL: (904) 255-2500

**MELISSA W. NELSON
STATE ATTORNEY**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Contact: David Chapman
Phone: (904) 255-3004
Cell: (904) 524-6626
ChapmanD@coj.net

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**JACKSONVILLE MAN SENTENCED TO 50 YEARS
FOR BRUTAL ATTACK OF CELLPHONE STORE EMPLOYEE**

State Attorney Melissa Nelson announces that the Honorable Steven B. Whittington sentenced Emery Deshon Handy, Jr., 19, of Jacksonville to 50 years in Florida State Prison for Attempted First-Degree Murder with a Deadly Weapon, Armed Robbery, and Burglary with Assault or Battery.

Handy entered a guilty plea on May 7, 2018.

In March 2017, Hardy entered an open alley door to a cellphone store on the Westside. The victim, a store employee, sat behind the counter and was unaware Handy had entered the business. Handy watched the victim off and on for about six minutes before attacking him with a knife. The entire incident was caught on surveillance video and the attack left the victim blind in his left eye. Handy fled with about \$800 from the business' register and the victim was able to call 911.

The case was investigated by Jacksonville Sheriff's Office and prosecuted by Assistant State Attorney Cameron French.