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**HILAIRE RECEIVES 18 YEARS FOR ARMED ROBBERY, FIREARM POSSESSION**

State Attorney Melissa Nelson announces that the Honorable Angela M. Cox sentenced Kevin Hilaire, 21, of Jacksonville to 18 years in Florida State Prison for Armed Robbery, and Possession of a Firearm by an Adjudicated Delinquent. His sentence includes a 10-year mandatory minimum for the use of a firearm during the armed robbery.

Hilaire was found guilty by a jury on Jan. 18, 2017.

On Dec. 30, 2016, Hilaire and the victim met at Blue Cypress Park to complete the sale of an item. The two had previously negotiated a price through social media. When the victim arrived, Hilaire entered his vehicle then robbed him at gunpoint. Hilaire made the victim remove his car keys from the ignition and demanded his cellphone and money.

The case was investigated by Jacksonville Sheriff's Office and successfully prosecuted by Assistant State Attorney Elizabeth Beck.