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## MEDIA RELEASE

DATE:May 16, 2022RE:Sentencing of Brian Summerson

(**Bel Air, Maryland**) - Albert J. Peisinger, Jr., State's Attorney for Harford County, has announced the sentencing of Brian Summerson, from Dillon, South Carolina for assault in the first degree and robbery.

On January 8, 2021, Harford County Sheriff's Detectives responded to Mercy Hospital for the report of an assault that had occurred earlier in Belcamp. Detectives interviewed the victim who indicated that she met a man online and agreed to meet him in Harford County. During the course of their interaction, the suspect strangled the victim and forced her to send him money through Cash App. The victim later provided phone numbers to Detectives and positively identified Brian Summerson through a photo array as her attacker. Detectives further discovered that Mr. Summerson was arrested in Florida after this incident for a similar crime and a Federal warrant had been issued for an alleged kidnapping in Tennessee.

Mr. Summerson was extradited to Harford County where he stood trial. Following a four-day bench trial in front of the Honorable Kevin J. Mahoney, Mr. Summerson was convicted of assault in the first degree and robbery.

On May 13, 2022, Judge Mahoney sentenced Mr. Summerson to an aggregate 30 years of incarceration to be served at the Department of Corrections. Upon completion of those sentences, the defendant was additionally placed on five years of supervised probation.

"I am very pleased with this outcome," said Harford County State's Attorney Albert J. Peisinger, Jr. "This violent individual deserved nothing less than the significant jail sentence he received for this horrible crime." Mr. Peisinger further stated: "I certainly hope that the victim can find closure. As this prosecution and sentence shows, we will not waver in our commitment to eradicating brutal and senseless instances of violence such as this to ensure the safety of our communities."

Mr. Peisinger thanked the Harford County Sheriff's Office for their response and investigation and Assistant State's Attorneys Cyndi Adkins and Toi Mason for their advocacy that resulted in the conviction of Mr. Summerson.