NEWS RELEASE

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Attorney General Steve Marshall Announces Court of Criminal Appeals Upholds Robbery Convictions in Tuscaloosa County

(MONTGOMERY) — Attorney General Steve Marshall announced the Alabama Court of Criminal Appeals affirmed the convictions of Tavarius Eugene Wade, age 41 of Belle Glade, Florida, for robbery in the first-degree. Wade was convicted in the Tuscaloosa County Circuit Court on April 4, 2022.

The evidence at trial showed that on February 16, 2008, Wade and two other men stole a vehicle from a mall parking lot, which they drove to a jewelry store in Tuscaloosa where the men stole 74 Rolex watches at gunpoint. The watches were valued in excess of \$600,000. Wade and his codefendants also robbed four customers and employees who were present during the robbery of the jewelry store.

Tuscaloosa County District Attorney Hays Webb's office successfully prosecuted this case and obtained the guilty verdicts. Wade was sentenced to concurrent terms of twenty-five years' imprisonment for his two convictions. Wade sought to have his convictions reversed on appeal.

The Attorney General's Criminal Appeals Division handled the case during the appeals process, arguing for the Alabama Court of Criminal Appeals to affirm Wade's convictions. The Court did so in a decision issued Friday, June 16, 2023.

Attorney General Marshall commends Assistant Attorney General Christopher D. Howell for his successful work on this case and thanks District Attorney Hays Webb and his staff for their valuable assistance in defending the robbery convictions.

