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Leland Man Convicted of Firearm and Theft Offenses

Terry Lee Ramsey, age 38 of Leland, pled guilty on Monday, February 9, 2026 in New Hanover County Superior Court to Possession of Firearm by a Convicted Felon, Obtaining Property by False Pretense, and Larceny from a Merchant. Judge G. Frank Jones of New Hanover County sentenced Ramsey to a total minimum of 55 months and a total maximum term of 95 months in the North Carolina Department of Adult Correction.

Around 4:47 p.m. on December 5, 2024, this defendant and an unknown accomplice entered the Lowe's Hardware Store on South College Road and stole two Dewalt 20-volt batteries valued at \$249 each. Later that same day, the two individuals sold the batteries to the National Pawn Store on South College Road for \$55 each. Then, in an unrelated offense on April 10, 2025, this defendant pawned a Remington 1100 model 12-gauge shotgun for \$500 at the Pawn South Store on Oleander Drive. He was prohibited from possessing firearms based on multiple prior felony convictions.

"This defendant has engaged in a course of unlawful conduct that has deprived citizens and their businesses of property for many years," said Assistant District Attorney Brad Matthews. "When you add in the fact that he also unlawfully possessing firearms, it is imperative that our community be protected from this defendant, and others like him, for the foreseeable future," Matthews continued.

"Under my tenure, our office will continue to prioritize the prosecution of repeat property crime offenders and prohibited possessors of firearms," District Attorney Jason W. Smith said. "This defendant and his actions fit into both of these categories, which is why he will be serving a lengthy prison sentence," Smith continued.

Detectives from the Wilmington Police Department investigated these cases. The State was represented by Assistant District Attorney Brad Matthews in this matter, and the defendant was represented by Attorney Blake Spale.



Terry Lee Ramsey