



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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Press Release

LONG PRISON SENTENCES IN VIOLENT HOME INVASION

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The four men involved in the brutal armed home invasion at 311 North Street in Weymouth in June 2008 have all pled guilty and all been sentenced to long state prison terms, according to Norfolk District Attorney William R. Keating. "This was a shocking and violent crime now each of the three men who went through that door has been sentenced to at least a decade in prison and the get away driver will serve no less than five years," District Attorney Keating said. "These men were apprehended through heroism and bravery on the part of several Weymouth officers, and they should be recognized for their work."

At about 10:50 a.m. on June 30, a 48-year-old woman at home with her son, mother and sister saw three Asian males coming down her driveway toward her home and sensed something bad was about to happen. She yelled to her sister and mother to run. She ran out the back while her mother and sister ran down the hall. Duc T. Vo, DOB 2-19-69 or Quincy, chased the woman out the back of the house and she fell at the bottom of the back stairs as she fled. Vo grabbed her, put a gun to her head and dragged her back into the kitchen.

When she entered the kitchen, she saw that Dung Hung Pham, DOB 12-26-68 of Quincy, and Thanh Van Dang, DOB 10-20-74 of Boston had brought her 78-year-old mother and sister back to the kitchen and put them on the floor at gunpoint. All three were tied with zip ties while the men violently ripped jewelry from their bodies, held guns to their heads and demanded money eventually emptying \$1,000 cash from one purse and taking several others. As the men rampaged through the home, a 12-year-old boy who had secreted himself away when the men entered the house managed to call 911.

The three women later told police that they thought they were going to be executed when the men zip tied them and placed duct tape over their eyes before departing.

Police arrived to see a silver car facing the street well down the long driveway toward the house. As officers approached, they saw Vo, Pham and Dang two of whom were carrying guns which later proved to be loaded exit the house and get into the car. When officers approached with guns drawn, Pham jumped out of the back seat and was tackled to the ground. Vo also exited the background and was later apprehended hiding in nearby marsh reeds.

As officers chased the first two, the car surged down the driveway and rammed two responding police cruisers; police chased the car as it fled, including over an area of sidewalk, until it crashed into another car and was forced to stop. Dang ran from the car and hopped a fence with an officer giving chase. He was apprehended at gunpoint, and police found money nearby that he had attempted to throw away during the chase.

The driver, later identified as Duong Dong, DOB 11-5-56 of Quincy, was also taken into custody. "These four men pled guilty to every indictment against them. We asked for a sentence of 20 years for the driver and 25 years for each of the three men who entered that house and terrorized that family," District Attorney Keating said. After the change of plea on March 2, Superior Court Judge Kenneth Fishman sentenced Dong, the driver, to 5 to 7 years state prison and each of the other men to 10 to 12 years state prison.

Duc Vo admitted to police that the home invasion, which the men planned for up to two weeks before it occurred, was perpetrated to get funds to buy heroin.

"Were it not for the actions of the young man who called police and the exemplary professionalism of the Weymouth Police, these four dangerous men might well have gone on to commit more crimes like these," District Attorney Keating said. "These officers have earned the gratitude of all those they have sworn to protect."

Immigration and Customs Enforcement officials have lodged detainers against all three of the men who entered the home for the purpose of deporting them when they have served their prison terms. Weymouth Police were also assisted by members of a Boston Police task force that had been working on similar home invasions.

Any and all defendants mentioned are legally innocent until proven guilty.