



# The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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## Press Release

### Decade in prison for invading the wrong house

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A Dorchester man was sentenced Tuesday (10/5/22) to 10 years in State Prison for a 2021 Stoughton armed home invasion that included the victim's father chasing the knife-wielding assailants from the home.

He and a co-defendant had planned to steal drugs that night but they got the address wrong and broke into the wrong home – a house where no drugs were present

Lamar Matthews, 30, and Valery Daniel, 19, burst into a bedroom in the basement of the home demanding drugs – bewildering the young man asleep in the room.

"The father was asleep shortly before 3 a.m. when he heard his son screaming from the basement," Norfolk District Attorney Michael W. Morrissey said following sentencing. "He ran to the defense of his son, who was unarmed and trying to fend off the two men who were suddenly in his bedroom assaulting at him."

Daniel, who was 17 at the time of the crime, pleaded guilty to all of the youthful offender indictments against him in early September and was given to consecutive sentences totaling 30 months in the Norfolk County House of Correction.

Last week in Norfolk Superior Court, Matthews was convicted following a jury-waived trial of two counts of assault with a dangerous weapon, assault and battery, two counts of armed assault in a dwelling, armed robbery, armed burglary, home invasion, B&E night/person in fear. Assistant District Attorney Courtney Kiernan requested a sentence of 10 to 12 years in prison.

"The Stoughton Police did good work on this case, sweeping the area just after the suspects fled, which led to Daniel being stopped walking on Central Street about a half mile from the home," District Attorney Morrissey said. "The officer noticed that, in addition to clothing consistent with what the suspect had been wearing, he was sweating heavily although it was 25 degrees and 3 a.m."

Stoughton Police then accessed the "Find my iPhone" app that the victim had installed on a cellular phone stolen in the home invasion. The phone was found discarded in a wooded area. Subsequent testing of the phone revealed five fingerprints matching Matthews.

"This must have been a terrifying experience for the young man and his father," said Deputy Chief Brian Holmes, who is acting police chief while Chief Donna McNamara attends the FBI National Academy in Virginia. "To be innocently asleep in your own bed and suddenly the victim of a violent crime, or to hear your son screaming for help, those are not things that anyone should have to fear in Stoughton."