

ERIK NASARENKO District Attorney

NEWS RELEASE

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Contact:Sean AlexanderTitle:Deputy District AttorneyTelephone:(805) 654-3082Email:Sean.Alexander@Ventura.org

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Defendants Enter Guilty Pleas in Organized Retail Theft

VENTURA, California – District Attorney Erik Nasarenko announced today that Cornell Williams (DOB 02/13/99), of Los Angeles, and Emonnie Walden (DOB 08/08/03), of Los Angeles, have pled guilty for their roles in a series of organized retail thefts from ULTA Beauty. Williams pled guilty to one felony count of second-degree commercial burglary. Walden pled guilty to one felony count of second-degree commercial burglary and three felony counts of organized retail theft.

The crimes occurred between August 29, 2021, and February 26, 2022, at the ULTA Beauty store in Thousand Oaks. On August 29, 2021, Williams and Walden entered the ULTA Beauty store at 205 North Moorpark Road and stole fragrances valued between \$3,000 and \$5,000.

On February 10, and February 12, 2022, Walden and a juvenile entered the same ULTA Beauty store and stole fragrances valued over \$12,000.

On February 26, 2022, Williams and Walden again entered the same ULTA Beauty store and stole fragrances valued at \$5,335. They then fled the scene in a waiting vehicle driven by co-defendant, Carolyn Crawley (DOB 02/04/90). Crawley previously pled guilty and was sentenced for her role in the theft. Merchandise taken during the heist contained a tracking device that led Ventura County Sheriff's Office deputies to their location.

Sentencing for Williams is scheduled on July 1, 2022, at 9:00 a.m. in courtroom 26 of the Ventura County Superior Court. He remains in custody with bail set at \$25,000. Sentencing for Walden is scheduled on July 1, 2022, at 9:00 a.m. in courtroom 23 of the Ventura County Superior Court. She remains in custody with bail set at \$50,000.

The Ventura County District Attorney's Office is the public prosecutor for the county's 850,000 residents. The office employs approximately 290 employees including attorneys, investigators, victim advocates, and professional support staff who strive to seek justice, ensure public safety, and protect the rights of crime victims.