

# Fourth man pleads guilty to role in home invasion

## Sentenced to eight years in Shaffer Street burglary

By Matt Busse

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Moments before Jarvis Alonzo Sales was sentenced Tuesday morning for participating in a burglary and gunfight at a Shaffer Street home last year, a judge asked him if he had anything to say.

"I'm not guilty," the 20-year-old Lynchburg man replied.

But Sales' claim of innocence made little difference at that point.

As part of an agreement with prosecutors, he had just pleaded guilty to six felonies: statutory burglary with the intent to commit robbery while armed with a deadly weapon, attempted robbery, maliciously shooting at an occupied dwelling, unlawfully wearing a mask in public and two firearms charges.

Lynchburg Circuit Judge Leyburn Mosby Jr. sentenced him to serve eight years in prison. Sales had faced up to life in prison.

Sales was one of four men who covered their faces with red bandannas and kicked in the back door of a Shaffer Street house around 2:30 a.m. on May 10, 2005,

said Chuck Felmlee, Lynchburg deputy commonwealth's attorney.

One of the house's occupants was forced to the floor at gunpoint, one hid on the roof and a third jumped out a second-story window, injuring his leg, Felmlee said. When the intruders fled empty-handed minutes later, the residents opened fire and the burglars shot back.

One burglar, Patrick Duane Sales, 21, of Lynchburg, was shot in the leg. Police found him by the road, and he later identified Jarvis Sales as one of his group.

Jarvis Sales' total sentence was 40 years in prison with 32 years suspended, which means he will serve eight years but could be sentenced to up to the remaining 32 years if he commits another crime after he's released.

Patrick Sales pleaded guilty in June to burglary and firearms charges and will be sentenced Oct. 20.

Two other Lynchburg men, Jarrod Shelton Terrell, 22, and Darnell O'Brian Goins, 21, have pleaded guilty to six felonies each. Terrell was sentenced in August to 43 years in prison with all but 16 suspended for the six felonies plus an unrelated drug charge.

Goins will be sentenced Oct. 27.

Felmlee said the burglars devised the break-in plan after a night of drinking and smoking marijuana. They knew the house's residents and had clashed with them in the past over girls and various high-school disagreements.

Also, Patrick Sales believed the house's occupants were drug dealers and would have a lot of cash, Felmlee said. Three of the house's five occupants during the break-in — Terrence Barbour, Corey Barbour and Sean Steven Wayne — have since been charged with federal drug crimes, he said.

Jarvis Sales' attorney, David Embrey, said if the case had gone to trial he would have shown his client was not involved, but Sales chose to take the plea agreement.

"The risk is so great," Embrey said. "It was a difficult decision for him."

Felmlee said he would have called Goins and Patrick Sales to testify against Jarvis Sales and would have presented evidence such as Jarvis Sales' DNA on a liquor bottle inside the burglars' getaway car.

"We had a very strong case," Felmlee said.