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## **SHOPLIFTER CONVICTED OF THEFT** **WITH TWO PREVIOUS CONVICTIONS**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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On Tuesday, July 25, 2017, a Victoria County jury convicted Daniel Steven DelaGarza of the felony offense of Theft with Two Previous Convictions. At trial, the State presented evidence showing that on or about April 17, 2016, the Defendant walked into the Wal-Mart located at 4101 Houston Highway and attempted to shoplift several tools from the hardware section. The Defendant removed the items' packaging, concealed them in his pockets, and attempted to walk out of the store without paying. Asset protection employees stopped the Defendant at the entrance to the store and called the police. Joshua Robinson from the Victoria Police Department responded to Wal-Mart and placed the Defendant under arrest.

A Victoria County grand jury indicted the Defendant in October of 2016. The Defendant's trial lasted only one day and consisted of testimony from officer and a Wal-Mart employee. The jury deliberated for less than 30 minutes before returning a guilty verdict and returning to consider punishment. At the punishment, ACDA Thomas Dillard presented evidence of the Defendant's eleven prior criminal convictions, including three prior convictions for theft. In closing, ACDA Dillard argued a strong sentence was needed, as the Defendant had received short sentences in the past and continued to commit crimes. The jury sentenced the Defendant to the maximum sentence of two years in a state jail facility and imposed a \$2,500 fine. First Assistant Criminal District Attorney Brendan Guy assisted in the prosecution of this case.

