

MAN FESSES UP TO '02 ROBBERY

Jan 30, 2008

BY KEITH EPPS

It took more than five years, but a local man's guilty conscience apparently got the best of him.

Ryan Patrick Casey, 29, was arrested earlier this month when he told Fredericksburg police about his involvement in a robbery and a burglary in the latter part of 2002.

City police spokeswoman Natatia Bledsoe said that Casey wasn't a suspect in either incident until he showed up at police headquarters and gave a detailed statement.

Casey is charged with robbery, burglary, grand larceny and using a firearm in the commission of a felony.

A scheduled preliminary hearing in Fredericksburg General District Court yesterday was continued to March 13, prosecutor Travis Bird said.

People are also reading...

- 1 **Alleged shooter, victim both charged as the result of road-rage incident in Spotsylvania**
 - 2 **Would-be bank robber gets five years in Spotsylvania**
 - 3 **Spotsylvania approves water use agreement for data center**
 - 4 **Lovers quarrel that got out of hand results in prison sentence for King George man**
-

According to police reports, the armed robbery occurred early Oct. 5, 2002, outside the Kentucky Fried Chicken on Hanson Avenue.

Two employees were on their way to their vehicles when an armed suspect confronted them in the parking lot.

The culprit ran away after forcing the victims to turn over a bank deposit bag to him, police said at the time.

The robber was wearing a ski mask, black gloves, black pants and a sweatshirt. The victims were unable to determine his race.

The break-in and grand larceny took place at a city residence about a week earlier, court records show.

Among the items taken in that theft was a .38-caliber gun.

Bledsoe said detectives had put both cases on the back burner because they had no more leads to follow up on.

The cases likely would have remained unsolved had not Casey come forward.

Bledsoe said the details Casey gave police in his statement made them believe he was telling the truth about his involvement in the crimes.

Keith Epps: 540/374-5404

Email: **kepps@freelancestar.com**