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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## DATE: DECEMBER 4, 2014

## RE: NATAUSHA GRADY PLEADS GUILTY AND RECEIVES 14 YEARS

OZARK, MO – The Christian County Prosecuting Attorney's Office announces that Natausha L. Grady, dob: 06-29-1977, pleaded guilty on December 3, 2014, to three cases involving multiple property-related crimes in front of the Honorable Senior Judge John Roberts. Natausha Grady pleaded guilty as a prior and persistent felony offender and received a sentence of 14 years in the Missouri Department of Corrections.

Grady was charged with the class C felonies stealing and receiving stolen property for events that occurred on May 30, 2013. Grady stole a purse along with makeup, sunglasses, a phone, and Credit Cards out of the victim's vehicle parked at the Hopedale Baptist Church in Ozark, Missouri. Christian Co. case number 13CT-CR01075-01.

Grady was charged with the class C felonies of forgery (two counts) and receiving stolen property for events that occurred between October 3, 2013 and October 5, 2013. Grady stole purses and wallets from three different victims, including a volunteer in the children's department at James River Assembly, a bus driver, and individual at her daughter's soccer game. Grady used checks and credit cards out of the wallets, including locations in Springfield and Nixa. Christian Co. case number 13CT-CR02091-01.

Grady was charged with the class C felonies of receiving stolen property and forgery, the class D felony of fraudulent use of a credit device, and two misdemeanor counts of stealing for events occurring between January 10 and January 13, 2014. Grady stole purses from three different victims. Grady used checks or attempted to use checks and credit cards stolen from those purses at different locations, including locations in Ozark and Nixa. Grady also stole merchandise at Ozark Mountain Granite located in Ozark, MO. Christian Co. case number 14CT-CR00110-01 consolidated into 14CT-CR00188-01.

Grady was charged with the class B felony of trafficking in stolen identities, the class C felonies of receiving stolen property, two counts of misdemeanor stealing, a count of misdemeanor receiving stolen property, and attempted stealing for events occurring between January 27 and January 29, 2014. Grady stole purses, wallets, phones, and forms of personal identification from seven different victims. Grady was arrested on January 29, 2014, with a large number of those identifications, as well as a stolen phone with her by Nixa Police Department. Grady also attempted to use the credit cards at various places in Springfield and Nixa. Christian Co. case number 14CT-CR00188-01.

Each case was committed after Grady had posted a bond. The State moved to hold Grady without bond after the incident in late January 2014, because she posed a danger to the community, and that request was granted by the Court. The cases had been set for jury trial on December 8, 2014.

The range of punishment for a class B felony is five (5) to fifteen (15) years incarceration. The range of punishment for a class C felony is one day up to seven (7) years incarceration and/or a fine not to exceed \$5000. The range of punishment for a class D felony is one day up to four (4) years incarceration and/or fine not to exceed \$5000. Since the Defendant pleaded guilty as a prior and persistent felony offender that increased the range of punishment of the class B felony charge up to 30 years, or life, class C felony charges up to 15 years incarceration and the class D charges up to 7 years incarceration.

Per the terms of the plea agreement, Natausha Grady received a total of 14 years in the Missouri Department of Corrections. Grady received 14 years in the Missouri Department of Corrections on the charges of Trafficking in Stolen Identities, Forgery, Stealing, and Receiving Stolen Property. Grady received 7 years in the Missouri Department of Corrections on the charge of Fraudulent use of Credit Device. Grady received a sentence of one year on all the misdemeanor counts. All counts are to run concurrently to each other.

The State dismissed a misdemeanor count of attempted stealing and a case of driving while suspended as part of the plea agreement.

Grady's prior felony convictions making her a prior and persistent felony offender are for similar property-related crimes, including forgery, stealing, and fraudulent use of a credit device, for events that occurred in 2001, 2002, and 2003.

The cases were prosecuted by Assistant Prosecuting Attorney Anna Bunch. The cases were investigated by multiple law enforcement agencies, including the Christian County Sheriff's Department, Nixa Police Department, Ozark Police Department, and Springfield Police Department. The lead officers were Zach Hamilton formerly with the Christian County Sheriff's Dept. and now with Ozark PD, Detective Billy Miller with Nixa PD, Lt. Kevin Boyce with Ozark PD, and Detective Matt Farmer with Springfield PD.