

### **Defendant: Charles Lloyd Summers**

Charles is a 52-year-old graduate of Grimsley High School. He is separated from his wife and has three children, two daughters who are 14 and 16. His oldest son is in college at East Carolina University. 3 years ago, Charles survived a heart attack and has been on disability for the last few years. He recently began working again, but it has only been through a temp agency and has involved mostly short term custodial jobs. Before his disability, Charles worked in a law care business and an auto-mechanic business since his graduation from high school.

Charles is a lifelong resident of Guilford County. He has a sister and two nieces who live in Rockingham County, North Carolina. His father still lives in High Point, North Carolina. He has a stable residence at 214 West Eugene Street in Greensboro, but has been struggling to pay his utility bills. He is afraid that if he doesn't get out of jail and get back to work, his family might not be able to afford the rent. He does get some limited government assistance, in the form of \$127 a month in food stamps. He makes approximately \$950 a month from his job, but he is hoping to get a second job soon. His monthly expenses, after food, rent, and utilities are paid, is approximately 750 dollars.

On Wednesday January 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2018, Charles asked a friend, Lewis Weathers, to take him to Wal-Mart because he wanted to buy a space heater to run in one room because his heat was having problems and the landlord hadn't come to fix it yet. Mr. Weathers dropped him off at the front door and said he would wait there for him. When Mr. Summers went to find the heaters, he realized that they were more expensive than he thought. Mr. Summers didn't originally intend to steal the space heater from the store, but he thought about his family being cold and decided to try and walk out the garden section with it.

Mr. Summers kept walking past the exit doors and noticed that he was being followed by someone in plain clothes. The man in plain clothes placed his hand on Mr. Summers's cart and told him to "go back inside." Mr. Summers panicked at this point and pulled out his pocket knife. He wasn't sure what was going through his mind at the time, but he didn't want to get in trouble. When he realized that the plain-clothes man may have been an employee of Wal-Mart, he slowly backed away from the cart and walked towards where his friend's car was. Mr. Summers felt embarrassed and ashamed and did not tell Mr. Weathers what happened.

Mr. Summers was arrested the next day, in his home.