

The Virgin Islands Consortium

St. Croix Man Sentenced To 10 Years In Prison For Robbery Of Quality Foods In Castle Coakley

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ST. CROIX -- Chief District Court Judge Wilma A. Lewis on August 4, 2016, sentenced Daniel Ramos, 41, to seven years in prison for using and carrying a firearm during and in relation to a crime of violence and 33 months in prison for interference with commerce by robbery, United States Attorney Ronald W. Sharpe announced.

The sentences are to be served consecutively. Judge Lewis also sentenced Mr. Ramos to two terms of supervised release to be served concurrently, and a special monetary assessment of \$200.

Mr. Ramos pleaded guilty on January 14, 2016. According to the plea agreement filed with the court, on June 21, 2014, Mr. Ramos and his co-defendant, Edigberto Diaz -- [who was sentenced to 8 years in prison for his involvement in the robbery](#) -- armed with handguns, entered Quality Foods located at Estate Castle Coakley in St. Croix. They went into an office area, pointed their handguns at two individuals, and demanded that they open the safe. The defendant and co-defendant removed deposit bags containing \$24,289.17 in cash and checks from the safe. They also took cellular telephones, a music player, a laptop computer, a checkbook, and backpacks from the victims.

Mr. Diaz, who carried a loaded Smith & Wesson .40 caliber semiautomatic handgun with an obliterated serial number, was shot at the scene by police. Mr. Ramos carried a toy gun and fled the scene. He was recognized on a surveillance video and arrested.

This case was investigated by the Virgin Islands Police Department and the Federal Bureau of Investigation. It was prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Rhonda Williams-Henry.

Correction: August 5, 2016

A previous version of this story, because of a text error, incorrectly stated that Daniel Ramos, 41, was sentenced to 7 years in prison, when he was sentenced to 10 years. The story has been updated to reflect the correct information.