



**Erin M. Minor
Prosecutor**



Mercer County Prosecutor's Office Press Release

On August 5, 2026, Joseph S. Hopson was sentenced to 540 days in the Mercer County jail. Hopson previously had pled guilty to two counts of Misdemeanor Theft and one count of Falsification.

Hopson's convictions stem from an incident that occurred in the evening hours of May 26, 2025. Hopson called law enforcement from a local business where he was working, claiming the business had been robbed. Upon arrival, officers immediately began to question Hopson's account, which did not match up with evidence found at the scene. Over \$3,500 was stolen from the business. Hopson claimed that intruders had entered the business while he was closing, taken the money, and injured him. However, surveillance footage revealed no intruders, and first responders found no injuries on Hopson consistent with his version of events.

Hopson also was ordered to pay restitution to the business owners.