



BUTTE COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY



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PRESS RELEASE

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Serial Burglar Sentenced to State Prison for 21 Years

A serial burglar was sentenced today in the Butte County Superior Court for multiple burglaries he committed in the Cherokee, Oroville and Biggs areas from November 2020 to January 2021.

Brian Horton, 45, of Cherokee, previously admitted to three first-degree residential burglaries, two second-degree burglaries, and one attempted first-degree residential burglary. Horton was already on parole for a first-degree residential burglary in Stanislaus County from 2011.

Butte County District Attorney Mike Ramsey stated that Brian Horton was arrested on January 7, 2021, after burglarizing a home on Table Top Drive, in the Cherokee area. The residents arrived home and saw Horton running away. The residents discovered several items missing from their home, including a laptop, checkbook, and laptop case. Butte County Sheriff's Office (BCSO) deputies and detectives responded, and located the stolen items nearby, in the area where Horton had been seen fleeing. A short time later, deputies located Horton running towards his nearby residence. A parole search of Horton's home resulted in the discovery of a methamphetamine lab, as well several stolen firearms, which were taken during other residential burglaries.

Sheriff's detectives began an extensive investigation, which eventually tied Horton to burglaries of homes and outbuildings in both Oroville and Biggs. Detectives used surveillance videos, Horton's DNA and his cell phone to prove Horton was a serial burglar.

"I would like to thank the victims for reporting the incidents and providing law enforcement with the leads needed to identify and arrest Brian Horton," Ramsey said. "I also commend BCSO's deputies and detective for conducting a detailed and thorough investigation into these incidents, which prevented Horton from further victimizing our community."

Superior Court Judge Jesus Rodriguez sentenced Horton to the maximum term of 21 years and 4 months in state prison.

