

State v. Donald Phillips

On April 1, 2006, at around midnight, Donald Phillips, entered a neighbor's home. Mr. Phillips, who the neighbors knew only casually, was allowed into the home after banging on the door and yelling that he needed help. The neighbors were a married couple with two young children. After being allowed into the home Mr. Phillips, he told the father that he would harm his family if he did not do as he was directed by the defendant. Mr. Phillips then forced the father to drive to various ATM locations and remove money from the victim's account. Mr. Phillips continually threatened physical harm to the victim and his family if the victim did not do exactly as he was told. Mr. Phillips eventually abandoned the victim but not before issuing a final warning. . . tell the police and I, or people with whom I associate, will be back to seek revenge on your wife and children.

Because of the victim's fear for the safety of his young family he waited almost twelve hours before reporting the crime. The victim called his minister and prayed with him for insight as to what he should do to best safeguard his family. Ultimately law enforcement was contacted and Mr. Phillips was arrested and charged with First Degree Kidnapping and three counts of Second Degree Robbery.

A jury convicted Mr. Phillips of all charges and he was sentenced to prison for 100 months for his crimes. Mr. Phillips was also ordered to have no contact with the victims for the rest of his life. Understandably, the victims continue to be fearful and have relocated to a non disclosed address.