

GUN SHOP ROBBER GIVEN 4 YEARS

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After 90 minutes of testimony describing Gregory [REDACTED] as a once-errant teen with enormous potential, Circuit Judge Edward Garrison sentenced the 17-year-old to four years in a youthful offenders' prison and placed him on two years' probation for his role in the robbery of a gun shop.

Though [REDACTED] involvement in a youth program and his attendance at school have improved, Garrison said "he does indeed have to pay that debt." Steven Barone, who with [REDACTED] held up the Sportsman Locker in Royal Palm Beach on Dec. 29, 1995, was given an identical sentence by Garrison last month.

Barone was shot in the shoulder by store owner Mary Cummings after he held a gun on her while [REDACTED] stole three pistols from the store. While Barone said the robbery was a result of his obsession with heist pictures like Reservoir Dogs and Pulp Fiction, [REDACTED] pleaded guilty and asked the judge for mercy.

"I know that what I did was real serious. I know that I should be punished for it," [REDACTED] said. "All I can say is I'm sorry."

[REDACTED] attorney, Jack Scarola, also called the boy's parents, workers at the Growing Together youth program, and [REDACTED] science teacher at Forest Hill High School as character witnesses.

None of that was enough to convince Cummings that [REDACTED] should not go to prison.

"Angels do not walk into people's businesses and point guns at them," she said. "He got caught. That's the only reason suddenly he's Mr. Goody Two-Shoes."

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