Valdron gets six years in home invasion

ADAM HODNETT
THE TRIBUNE

CAMPBELLTON - Kurt Valdron, 38, of Dalhousie was sentenced to six years in prison, with eight months of that sentence having already been served in custody.

On July 20 around 1:30 a.m., Valdron and another man entered the Victoria Street apartment of the male victim in Dalhousie with masks and a shotgun. They demanded money.

The victim was pushed to the ground, and when he looked up, he was threatened, and hit on the back of the head with the butt of the shotgun.

Valdron was identified on his way out, and arrested shortly after. The gun was found up the street from the robbery and it had his fingerprints on it.

Valdron was sentenced on March 10 in Campbellton provincial court for robbery, break and enter, threatening, pointing the shotgun, using the shotgun in a reckless manner, and being disguised with a mask.

"Only incarceration in a penitentiary will address this offence," said Judge Camille Dumas.

Prior to this incident, Valdron had been in prison on two separate occasions, once 30 days and another time for 60 days.

The defence attorney, Rod Duguay, read from the pre-sentence report, which Valdron agreed with.

"Mr. Valdron started drinking at the early age of 12 years old and he never stopped. It states in there that he turned 27 and realized he was alcoholic and admits that he still is," Duguay said.

"Alcohol ruined my life," Valdron told the courtroom.

"Your behaviour spiralled down to the level where you committed some of the most serious offences set out in the Criminal Code," said Dumas, who considered the different elements of the crime before handing down the sentence, and compared them with similar cases.

He emphasized the severity of home invasions, and pointed out that even the police need a search warrant if they want to enter a home without permission.

"It is conduct that cannot be tolerated," Dumas said.

He also weighed the psychological impacts on victims.

"Home invasion must be one of every homeowners worst nightmares," Dumas said.

The victim's impact statement said that a lump on his neck, where he was struck by the gun, is still being looked at by doctors, and that he has been in pain since the incident.

"Physical injuries will heal," Dumas said. "The psychological ones last, and last for a long time. Sometimes you cannot get rid of it."

Kurt Valdron of Dalhousie leaves Campbellton provincial court after an appearance last year. Photo: Tribune file

Because a firearm was involved, the minimum sentence would be four years. The maximum could be life in prison.

"That shows how serious that offence is," Dumas said.

Dumas also considered the fact that a certain amount of premeditation and planning were required, and that Valdron knew the victims.

Along with the jail term, Dumas ordered a lifetime ban from all firearms, a DNA sample for the DNA bank, and a recommendation that Valdron get psychiatric attention.

Another man had been charged as the second individual in the home invasion, but was acquitted after trial.

SiriusXM
DODGE Caravan Kids
PROUD SPONSOR OF AMATEUR HOCKEY ACROSS CANADA

ZING INTO SPRING SALES EVENT

LIMITED TIME OFFER
$500 GAS CARD CONTEST◆
A WINNER EVERY DAY
HURRY, OFFER ENDS MARCH 31ST

GET UP TO $10,350 IN TOTAL DISCOUNTS◊

Starting From Price for 2014 Dodge Grand Caravan Crew Plus shown: $31,295§

2014 DODGE GRAND CARAVAN SXT ULTIMATE FAMILY PACKAGE
- Air conditioning with Tri-zone Temperature Control
- SiriusXM™ Satellite Radio (includes one year of service)
- Rear air conditioning with heater
- Steering wheel mounted audio controls
- Hands-free connectivity with Uconnect™ Voice Command with Bluetooth®
- Includes 17-inch aluminum wheels
- 2nd row overhead 9-inch video screen
- Premium interior
- 2nd row Super Stow 'n Go®
- ParkView® rear back-up camera

PACKAGE VALUED AT $5,125 - YOU PAY ONLY $1,775!€*

OR CHOOSE

2014 DODGE GRAND CARAVAN CANADA VALUE PACKAGE
CANADA'S BEST-SELLING MINIVAN FOR 30 YEARS
$18,995 OR FINANCE FOR $108 BI-WEEKLY† @ 4.29% FOR 96 MONTHS WITH $0 DOWN
PURCHASE PRICE INCLUDES $8,100 CONSUMER CASH*

Starting From Price for 2014 Dodge Dart Aero shown: $19,995§

THE NEW 2014 DODGE DART SE
THE MOST TECHNOLOGICALLY ADVANCED COMPACT CAR**
FINANCE FOR $86 BI-WEEKLY> @ 2.79% FOR 96 MONTHS WITH $0 DOWN

AVAILABLE FEATURES
- All-Speed Traction Control System
- Four-channel antilock brakes
- Four-wheel disc brakes
- Hill start assist
- Ready-Alert Braking & Panic Brake Assist
- Ten air bags
- All-season tires
- Audio jack input for mobile devices
- Bi-functional halogen headlamps
- Body colour power mirrors
- Electronic stability control & roll mitigation
- Keyless entry with panic alarm
- Power windows, driver one touch up/down
- Uconnect™ 200 AM/FM/CD/MP3
- Remote fuel door release

Starting From Price for 2014 Dodge Journey R/T AWD shown: $30,695§

2014 DODGE JOURNEY SXT ULTIMATE JOURNEY PACKAGE
- Remote start
- Power sunroof
- ParkView® rear back-up camera with Park-Sense® rear park assist
- Uconnect™ hands-free communication with Bluetooth®
- 2nd row overhead 9-inch screen
- Air conditioning with Tri-zone Temperature Control
- 8.4-inch touch screen display
- SiriusXM™ Satellite Radio (includes one year of service)
- Premium soft-touch interior
- 6 premium speakers with subwoofers
- Best-in-Class storage˜
- Largest touch screen in its class˜

PACKAGE VALUED AT $7,140 – YOU PAY ONLY $2,145!€*

OR CHOOSE

2014 DODGE JOURNEY CANADA VALUE PACKAGE
CANADA'S #1 SELLING CROSSOVER^
$18,995 OR FINANCE FOR $108 BI-WEEKLY† @ 4.29% FOR 96 MONTHS WITH $0 DOWN
PURCHASE PRICE INCLUDES $2,000 CONSUMER CASH*

PULL-AHEAD BONUS CASH $1,000Ω + 1% RATE REDUCTION ENDS MARCH 31ST
PULL-AHEAD INTO A NEW VEHICLE SOONER. EXCLUSIVE TO OUR EXISTING FINANCE/LEASE CUSTOMERS.

dodgeoffers.ca

LESS FUEL. MORE POWER. GREAT VALUE.
15 VEHICLES WITH 40 MPG HWY OR BETTER.

CHRYSLER Jeep DODGE RAM

Less Fuel. More Power. Great Value is a comparison between the 2014 and the 2013 Chrysler Canada product lineups. 40 MPG or greater claim (7.0 L/100 km) based on 2014 EnerGuide highway fuel consumption ratings. Government of Canada test methods used. Your actual fuel consumption may vary based on driving habits and other factors. Ask your retailer for the EnerGuide information. ©2014 Dodge Grand Caravan 3.6L VVT V6 6-speed automatic – Hwy: 7.9 L/100 km (36 MPG), 2014 Dodge Journey 2.4 L with 4-speed automatic – Hwy: 7.7 L/100 km (37 MPG) and City: 11.2 L/100 km (25 MPG). Wise customers read the fine print: ◆, ◊, €, ★, *, †, ➢, Ω, § The Zing Into Spring Sales Event offers are limited time offers which apply to retail deliveries of selected new and unused models purchased from participating retailers on or after March 9, 2014. Offers subject to change and may be extended without notice. All pricing excludes freight ($1,695), licence, insurance, registration, any retailer administration fees, other retailer charges and other applicable fees and taxes. Retailer order/trade may be necessary. Retailer may sell for less. ◆NO PURCHASE NECESSARY. Contest ends March 31, 2014 at 11:59:59 p.m. AT. Open to legal residents of Nova Scotia, P.E.I., Newfoundland/Labrador or New Brunswick over the age of majority at time of entry. Limit: one entry per person. To enter, purchase/finance/lease any new 2012, 2013 or 2014 Chrysler, Jeep, Dodge or Ram vehicle (excluding SRT Viper models) during the contest period. Nineteen (19) grand prizes, each consisting of a $500 Esso gift card. Skill-testing question required. For complete contest rules, including no purchase means of entry, go to: www.atlantichrysler.com/en/win. ◊$10,350 in Total Discounts is available on the new 2014 Dodge Grand Caravan SXT model and consists of $7,000 Consumer Cash Discount and $3,350 in Ultimate Family Package Savings. See your retailer for complete details. €$5,125 in Package Value available on the new 2014 Dodge Grand Caravan SXT Ultimate Family Package (RTKH53296) model based on the following MSRP options: $850 Climate Group, $1,925 Single DVD Entertainment, $1,500 SXT Plus Group and $850 Uconnect Hands-Free Group, $7,140 in Package Value available on the new 2014 Dodge Journey SXT Ultimate Journey Package (JCDP49228K) model based on the following MSRP options: $1,475 Flexible Seating Group, $1,200 Rear Seat DVD, $525 Convenience Group, $2,645 Navigation & Sound Group and $1,235 Sunroof. See your retailer for complete details. ★Discounts available at participating retailers on the purchase/lease of only the following new vehicles: 2014 Dodge Grand Caravan SXT with Ultimate Family Package (RTKH53296). Discount consists of: $850 in no-cost options and $2,500 DVD Incentive that will be deducted from the negotiated price before taxes. Some conditions apply. See your retailer for complete details. *2014 Dodge Journey SXT with Ultimate Journey Package (JCDP49228K). Discount consists of: $2,495 in no-cost options and $2,500 DVD Incentive that will be deducted from the negotiated price before taxes. Some conditions apply. See your retailer for complete details. †4.29% purchase financing for up to 96 months available on new select models through RBC, Scotiabank and TD Auto Finance. Retailer order/trade may be necessary. Example: 2014 Dodge Dart (25A) with a Purchase Price of $15,995, with a $0 down payment, financed at 2.79% for 96 months equals 208 bi-weekly payments of $86 with a cost of borrowing of $1,870 and a total obligation of $17,864.90. ΩFinance Pull-Ahead Bonus Cash and 1% Rate Reduction are available to eligible customers on the retail purchase/lease of select 2014 Chrysler, Jeep, Dodge, Ram or Fiat models at participating retailers from March 1 to 31, 2014 inclusive. Finance Pull-Ahead Bonus Cash will be deducted from the negotiated price after taxes. 1% Rate Reduction applies on approved credit to most qualifying subvented financing transactions through RBC, TD Auto Finance and Scotiabank. 1% Rate Reduction cannot be used to reduce the final interest rate below 0%. Eligible customers include all original and current owners of select Chrysler, Jeep, Dodge, Ram or Fiat models with an eligible standard/subvented finance or lease contract maturing between January 1, 2014 and December 31, 2016. Trade-in not required. See retailer for complete details and exclusions. §Starting From Prices for vehicles shown include Consumer Cash Discounts and do not include upgrades (e.g., paint). Upgrades available for additional cost. The Best Buy Seal is a registered trademark of Consumers Digest Communications LLC, used under license. **Based on 2013 *Ward's* upper small sedan costing under $25,000. ^Based on R. L. Polk Canada, Inc. May 2008 to September 2013 Canadian Total New Vehicle Registration data for Crossover Segments as defined by Chrysler Canada Inc. ®Jeep is a registered trademark of Chrysler Group LLC. ™The SiriusXM logo is a registered trademark of SiriusXM Satellite Radio Inc.**

Man jailed for city B & E spree

ADAM HODNETT
THE TRIBUNE

CAMPBELLTON - Kyle McKay, 27, of Dalhousie was sentenced to 15 months in jail for a series of break-ins in Campbellton in October 2012.

Judge Camille Dumas handed down the sentencing in provincial court on Tuesday. McKay had 15 charges against him.

It began at 4 a.m. on Oct 16. A man heard a noise outside his house, and his dog started barking. He looked out his window and saw two men come out of his neighbour's shed. They went into the Sugarloaf Towers on Dover Street through the side entrance. He called the police. At 5:15 a.m., the man got dressed and went outside. He spoke with his neighbour for a few minutes, and when he returned, there was a man standing at his entrance. Then another came out from his yard. He yelled and started chasing after them.

He almost grabbed one by the shoulder, but he let go of his backpack. One of the men tried to jump over a fence, but it wasn't steady, and he fell on the ground. They got away, and the man called the police again. The police realized the men were going from house to house, so they did a search of the area. They eventually spotted one of the suspects. An officer tried to catch him, but he kept losing him. The officers decided to wait by the apartment building, where they eventually saw one of the men leave. When he got close enough the officer yelled, "stop, police," and the suspect took off running. The suspect eventually started to cross a river, but stopped, and was arrested. A search of McKay's apartment recovered most of the stolen property, which consisted of small items easily sold, like cameras. More calls came throughout the day saying multiple sheds were broken into, even though, in some cases, nothing was taken. Some cars had been broken into as well.

McKay then failed to appear in court and a warrant was issued for his arrest. He was caught on Oct. 31 in Moncton. He was then brought back to Campbellton on Nov. 4, where he pleaded guilty and awaited sentencing.

"That morning of Oct. 16 people were disturbed, a whole neighbourhood was disturbed," said Joanne Durette, the Crown attorney at McKay's sentencing.

Defence lawyer Terry Delaney focused on the difficulties of McKay's childhood, the responsibilities he faces as a father himself with a child with some medical problems, and his plans to finish training and go to Alberta.

"He wants to be involved and he tries to assist the mother of his child," Delaney said.

"Going to the penitentiary will ruin my life," McKay said.

Dumas considered the principles of sentencing, including restitution.

"To order restitution right now would be dreaming in colour," he said.

He also considered similar cases, and the sentences associated with them.

"We must be mindful that there is a big difference between breaking into a shed and breaking into a residence," he said.

Dumas also considered that McKay was on probation at the time, even though his criminal record wasn't very long.

Dumas accepted a joint sentencing request, effectively giving McKay another 15 months in jail when four months already served in custody was taken into account.