

Ozark man receives 123 months for thefts from construction sites

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OZARK — One man's drug addiction likely led him to 123 months in prison after law enforcement officials said he spent months stealing equipment from construction sites and storing the goods in his personal storage unit.

William Brooks, 34, was sentenced by Dale County Circuit Judge P.B. McLauchlin for several charges of theft of property and burglary.

According to Dale County District Attorney Kirke Adams, Ozark police officers and contractors spent months trying to find who was stealing

materials and tools from construction sites across the city.

Ozark police said Brooks had rented a storage unit and stored the stolen property. He was charged after confessing to the crimes during questioning.

Adams said a drug user would typically trade the stolen merchandise for drugs.

"He claimed he had a drug problem. They can address that in prison," Adams said. "His record dates back to 1991. A lot of people will be happy to see him off the streets."

Brooks held his head down before McLauchlin prepared to pronounce the sentence.

"I apologize," Brooks said.