

OPINION SUMMARY

MISSOURI COURT OF APPEALS EASTERN DISTRICT

STATE OF MISSOURI,)	No. ED97507
)	
Respondent,)	Appeal from the Circuit Court
)	of the City of St. Louis
vs.)	
)	Honorable Timothy J. Wilson
STEVEN TRAMBLE,)	
)	
Appellant.)	FILED: October 16, 2012

Steven Tramble (“Tramble”) appeals from the judgment entered upon a jury verdict of one count of first-degree robbery, one count of attempted first-degree robbery, and two counts of armed criminal action. Tramble alleges on appeal that the trial court abused its discretion by overruling defense counsel’s objection to the prosecutor’s closing remarks, which he claims were inflammatory, prejudicial, and a plain appeal to the emotions of the jurors. Tramble also claims that the trial court plainly erred in allowing the State to cross-examine him regarding his prior convictions.

AFFIRMED.

Division Four holds: The trial court did not abuse its discretion when it overruled defense counsel’s objection to the State’s closing argument. The prosecutor’s closing argument was permissible because it discussed the effects of crime on community without suggesting that this specific defendant posed a personal threat to the jurors or their families. Additionally, the trial court did not plainly err in allowing the State to cross-examine Tramble regarding the sentences he served following his prior convictions. The trial court committed no evident, obvious, and clear error that affected the substantial rights of the defendant.

Opinion by: Kurt S. Odenwald, J., Lawrence E. Mooney, P.J., and Patricia L. Cohen, J., Concur.

Attorney for Appellant: Andrew E. Zleit

Attorney for Respondent: Chris Koster and Jessica P. Meredith

THIS SUMMARY IS NOT PART OF THE OPINION OF THE COURT. IT HAS BEEN PREPARED FOR THE CONVENIENCE OF THE READER AND SHOULD NOT BE QUOTED OR CITED.