

ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE

Opening Activity

You be the Judge

Name: _____ Period: _____ Row: _____ Date: _____

You be the Judge is a legal puzzle designed to exercise your mind and reasoning power. Read the facts of this real life court case. Then put your judgment against that of the real jury or trial judge.

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31. Ten Finger Discount?



Teddy entered a downtown department store and stole four men's suits from a sale rack by wearing them out of the store. A store security officer observed the theft on surveillance cameras and later arrested Teddy as he left the store. At his trial, Teddy is charged with grand theft because the value exceeded the state minimum dollar requirement for this offense. The only evidence of the value of the suits becomes an issue at trial. The District Attorney produces the testimony of the security guard who made the arrest. The guard admitted that he got the price of the suits from the original price tags attached to the suits, which indicated a price of \$800.00. The suits were sold by the store to customers prior to the trial and had been on a sale rack. Store management was not able to take the time to come to court nor would they release any store records for court purposes. They felt the security officer's statement and report would suffice.

Can Teddy be found guilty of grand theft based solely on the security guards statement of value?
