



NEWS RELEASE
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Man Convicted For Sexually Assaulting Roommate in 2007

SPRINGFIELD, Mo. – Greene County Prosecuting Attorney Dan Patterson announces that Brandon R. Mckean-Shields, 36, of Springfield, MO was convicted today by the Honorable Thomas Mountjoy, Greene County judge, of deviate sexual assault and sexual misconduct in the first degree.

The evidence at trial showed that the victim and the defendant were roommates in 2007. The victim testified that she was comfortable living with the defendant because he and her cousin had a baby together. The victim made it clear to the defendant that the relationship was platonic and, in fact, told him that he should treat her like a sister. Nonetheless, in January 2007, during the ice storm, the defendant sexually assaulted the victim in the living room of their home. The victim told the defendant to stop and left the living room and moved to her bedroom. The defendant followed the victim into the bedroom and sexually assaulted her again. The victim did not initially call the police because she was nervous about the incident and she was concerned about confrontation with the suspect. She ultimately did report the incident to the police after being encouraged to do so by her cousin and mother. Springfield police officers collected the victim's sheets and the defendant's DNA was found on her sheets. In a police interview, the defendant admitted to trying to "seduce" the victim but claimed that she turned down his advances and he never touched her. Then in trial, the defendant admitted to sexual contact but claimed the contact was consensual.

The facts of this case are not uncommon. According to the Rape, Abuse, Incest National Network (RAINN), each year, there are approximately 207,754 victims of sexual assault. 54% of sexual assaults are not reported to the police. 2/3 of all sexual assaults are committed by someone known to the victim and 38% of rapists are a friend

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or acquaintance to the victim. If you or someone you know has been a victim of sexual assault, and need help, please call The Victim Center (417)864-7233.

The conviction for sexual assault carries a range of punishment of 1 day to 7 years in the Missouri Department of Corrections and/or a fine up to \$5000, or some combination of fine and imprisonment. The conviction for sexual misconduct in the first degree carries a range of punishment of 1 day to 1 year in the Greene County Jail, and/or a fine up to \$1000, or a combination of fine and imprisonment. The bench trial was presided over by the Honorable Thomas Mountjoy and sentencing was set for January 10, 2014 at 2:00PM.

This case is being prosecuted by Assistant Prosecuting Attorney Stephanie Wan. It was investigated by the Springfield Police Department and Sergeant David Meyer was the lead investigator assigned to the case.

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