



NEWS RELEASE
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Man Sentenced For a Total of 50 Years for Sexual Abuse

SPRINGFIELD, Mo. – Greene County Prosecuting Attorney Dan Patterson announces that Mark Edward Womack Jr., 47, of Republic, MO was sentenced today for sexually abusing the victim over three years. The abuse began while the defendant lived in Christian County and continued when he moved to Greene County. On February 22, 2013, the defendant pled guilty to the unclassified felony of statutory sodomy in the first degree, 2 counts of the class B felony of child molestation in the first degree, and 2 counts of the class C felony of statutory sodomy in the second degree. Womack had also been charged in Christian County, Missouri for the abuse that occurred in that jurisdiction. On April 5, 2013, The Honorable Mark Orr sentenced him to 25 years in the Missouri Department of Corrections for his convictions in that county.

Womack was sentenced by The Honorable Thomas Mountjoy to 25 years in the Missouri Department of Corrections on the statutory sodomy in the first degree, 15 years on each count of child molestation in the first degree, and 7 years on each count of statutory sodomy in the second degree. Probation was denied. Those sentences were to run concurrently to each other but consecutively to the sentence in Christian County, for a total of 50 years in the Missouri Department of Corrections.

Prior to hearing arguments, Judge Mountjoy heard victim impact statements from the victim and members of her family. In her victim impact statement, the now 16 year old victim discussed how she initially did not disclose for fear of hurting her family and Womack's family. However, she stated that despite the pain and suffering she endured as a result of the abuse, she stated that she regained her faith and, "The

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abuse has shaped me into who I am, and who I will become. I wouldn't be me without it . . . I'm embracing the hurt to help others. I want to help others the way people helped me. I used to be a victim. I'm not his victim, not anymore, I'm a survivor!"

This case is being prosecuted by Assistant Prosecuting Attorney Stephanie Wan. It was investigated by the Republic Police Department and Detective Mark Wilcox was the lead investigator assigned to the case.

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