



NEWS RELEASE
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Man Sentenced for Sexually Assaulting His Stepdaughter

SPRINGFIELD, Mo. – Greene County Prosecuting Attorney Dan Patterson announces that Brian R. Graham, 57, was sentenced today to 5 years in prison by the Honorable Thomas Mountjoy for Deviate Sexual Assault following a three day jury trial in April.

Graham was found guilty of sexually assaulting the victim in May of 2009. The defendant married the victim's mother in 2004. Although the two separated in 2006, the defendant remained a family friend. The evidence showed that on the night before the incident the victim, the victim's mother, and the defendant were at a local bar. Throughout the night the victim, then 27, became highly intoxicated and needed the assistance of her mother to walk out of the bar. The defendant drove them back to the mother's residence located in Springfield. Sometime early that morning the defendant entered a spare bedroom where the victim was sleeping. The evidence showed that once inside the bedroom the defendant sexually assaulted the victim while she was unconscious and still intoxicated from the night before. The victim's mother walked in during the assault at which time the defendant fled the scene. The jury heard testimony from Ashley Vanhorn, a specially trained nurse who completed a sexual assault examination on the victim. An analysis of the evidence obtained from that examination showed the defendant's DNA was present. The defendant was also convicted in 1996 of Sexual Misconduct in the 1st Degree.

Deviate Sexual Assault has a range of punishment of 1 day in the Greene County Jail to 7 years in the Missouri Department of Corrections and/or a fine of up to \$5,000. As a result of this conviction the defendant will remain a registered sex

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offender. Judge Mountjoy sentenced Graham to 5 years in the Missouri Department of Corrections.

This case was being prosecuted by Assistant Prosecuting Attorneys Nathan Chapman and Mallory Revel. It was investigated by the Springfield Police Dept. and Detective Maggie McDowell was the lead investigator assigned to the case.

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