



**NEWS RELEASE**  
**GREENE COUNTY PROSECUTING ATTORNEY**  
**DAN PATTERSON**

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Man Pled Guilty on Day of Trial for Sexual Abuse of Teenager**

SPRINGFIELD, Mo. – Greene County Prosecuting Attorney Dan Patterson announces that Peter Funderburk, 30, of Springfield, MO entered a guilty plea to having sexual contact with a 16 year old girl in 2012. The trial was set to begin this morning until Funderburk abruptly pled guilty.

Funderburk entered a guilty plea before the Honorable Calvin Holden to one count of statutory rape in the 2<sup>nd</sup> degree and two counts of statutory sodomy in the 2<sup>nd</sup> degree.

In 2012 the defendant was released from prison and started living with his mother, her friend and the 16 year old victim. Despite the fact that the defendant was 28 years old and later admitted he knew the victim was 16 years old, he began to engage in sexual activity with her. The sexual activity was interrupted on the night of August 07, 2012 when the defendant's mother walked into the victim's bedroom and caught him having sexual intercourse with the victim. After being caught by his mother, the defendant fled the house but was later detained by law enforcement officers. The defendant later confessed to having sex with the victim. Additionally, the defendant's DNA was found in the victim's underwear.

The defendant is a prior and persistent offender with convictions for burglary in the 2<sup>nd</sup> degree, attempted burglary in the 2<sup>nd</sup> degree, damage to jail property, failure to return rented property and possession of a controlled substance. The Defendant did not plead guilty pursuant to a plea agreement which means he is subject to the entire range of punishment. The defendant now faces up to fifteen years imprisonment on each count. Judge Holden set a sentencing hearing for April 25, 2014 at 1:30 PM following a sentencing assessment report by the Department of Probation and Parole.

Subject: Greene County Prosecuting Attorney Press Release, State v.  
Funderburk, 1231-CR05291-01

**This case is being prosecuted by Assistant Prosecuting Attorney Nathan Taylor. It was investigated by the Springfield Police Dept. and Detective Robert Byrne was the lead investigator assigned to the case.**

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