



NEWS RELEASE
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10/24/2014

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

JURY CONVICTS PRIOR SEX OFFENDER

SPRINGFIELD, Mo. – Greene County Prosecuting Attorney Dan Patterson announces that Andrew McDonald, 44, of Springfield, MO was convicted today by a Greene County Jury for sexually assaulting an 11 year old girl back in 2011.

McDonald was found guilty of Statutory Sodomy in the First Degree contained in the felony information. The jury deliberated for approximately two and a half hours before returning its verdict. The Defendant was found not guilty of Burglary in the First Degree.

Several witnesses testified for the State including the now 14 year old victim. The victim testified that on August 8, 2011 she was staying that night at a friend's house on Commercial Street. The evidence established that sometime that evening the Defendant stopped by the residence and was allowed to cook food that he had purchased. While the victim was using the bathroom the Defendant entered and committed the assault. Several witnesses testified that upon leaving the bathroom the victim was crying and immediately disclosed what happened. The Defendant fled the scene and forced his way into a nearby apartment where he was eventually apprehended by police.

The jury heard the testimony of Katie Klockslem, a former child forensic interviewer with the Child Advocacy Center in Springfield. Klockslem described in detail the process children often face in disclosing sexual abuse. This process may include the victim disclosing different details over time depending on the mental state of the child.

Subject: Greene County Prosecuting Attorney Press Release, State v. McDonald, 1231-CR06748-01

The jury trial was presided over by The Honorable Thomas Mountjoy. The Defendant was charged as a persistent sexual offender due to a 1988 conviction for Aggravated Criminal Sexual Assault out of the State of Illinois. Under Missouri law the sentence for a persistent sexual offender is life imprisonment without the possibility of parole. Judge Mountjoy set a sentencing hearing for 1/23/2015 2:30:00 PM following a sentencing assessment report by the Department of Probation and Parole.

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

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