

## NEWS RELEASE GREENE COUNTY PROSECUTING ATTORNEY DAN PATTERSON

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## PRIOR SEX OFFENDER FOUND GUILTY OF STATUTORY RAPE AND SODOMY

SPRINGFIELD, Mo. – Greene County Prosecuting Attorney Dan Patterson announces that Shawn Kelly Martin, 42, of Tipton, Missouri was convicted on Wednesday by a Greene County Jury of statutory rape and sodomy of a six year old child.

Martin was found guilty of all five counts as contained in the felony information. The jury deliberated for three hours before returning its verdict finding Martin guilty of one count of statutory rape in the first degree and four counts of statutory sodomy in the first degree. In an interview with the Springfield Police Department, Martin explained he believed he would be able to 'get away' with abusing the six year old because the child was also being abused by the child's step-father. Martin was a prior sex offender having been found guilty of statutory sodomy in the second degree in Stone County, Missouri in 2003.

Successful prosecution of both sexual and physical child abuse requires citizens to report any suspected child abuse. Prosecuting Attorney Patterson wants to remind the Greene County community that reporting child abuse is everyone's responsibility. If you suspect child abuse or neglect, please call the Missouri Child Abuse & Neglect Hotline at 1-800-392-3738. If you are mandated by law to report child abuse and neglect, you can make a report online on the Missouri Children's Division website. If you see something, say something.

The jury trial was presided over by The Honorable David Jones. The defendant is subject to a sentence of up to thirty years, or life, in the Missouri Department of Corrections on each of the five counts. Further, pursuant to Missouri law, the sentences on each of the five counts must run consecutively. Judge Jones set a sentencing hearing

Subject: Greene County Prosecuting Attorney Press Release, State v. Martin, 1931-CR06612-01

for September 17, 2021 at 11:00 AM following a sentencing assessment report by the Department of Probation and Parole.

This case is being prosecuted by First Assistant Prosecuting Attorney Nathan Chapman and Assistant Prosecuting Attorney Dakota W. Paris. It was investigated by the Springfield Police Department and Detective Jason Marcum was the lead investigator assigned to the case.

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