



NEWS RELEASE
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Felon Convicted of Statutory Rape in the First Degree

SPRINGFIELD, Mo.-Greene County Prosecuting Attorney Dan Patterson announces that Brian Manuel Southern, 34, of Springfield, MO was convicted on Friday, June 15, 2012, by a Greene County Jury of Statutory Rape in the First Degree following a three day jury trial before the Honorable Judge Thomas Mountjoy. The jury deliberated for six hours before returning its verdict.

The Defendant was found guilty of the rape of a twelve year old child on July 31st, 2009. The defendant has several prior felony convictions including felony resisting an arrest, felon in possession of firearms, and trafficking of drugs in the second degree.

The jury trial was presided over by The Honorable Thomas Mountjoy. The defendant is subject to a sentence of five years to life imprisonment in the Missouri Department of Corrections. The defendant was remanded to the custody of the Greene County Jail and is currently being held without bond. Sentencing has been set for August 17, 2012, at 2:30 p.m. in front of the Honorable Judge Thomas Mountjoy.

This case was prosecuted by Senior Assistant Prosecuting Attorney Ami Miller and First Assistant Prosecuting Attorney Casey Clark. It was investigated by the Springfield Police Dept. and Detective Nathan Thomas was the lead investigator assigned to the case.

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