



NEWS RELEASE
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05/16/2013

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Man With 24 Criminal Convictions Found Guilty of Assaulting Girlfriend and Police

SPRINGFIELD, Mo. – Greene County Prosecuting Attorney Dan Patterson announces that James Edward. Scott , 37, of Springfield, MO was convicted yesterday by a Greene County Jury of domestic assault in the third degree, resisting arrest, and five counts of assault of a law enforcement officer in the third degree, following a three day jury trial before the Honorable Dan Conklin. The jury deliberated approximately four hours before returning their verdict.

On July 7, 2011, Springfield police officers were sent to the Dogwood Inn in Springfield, Missouri in response to a domestic disturbance. On scene, they met the victim who had swelling to her face and red marks to her face, neck, and arms. Officers spoke to another hotel guest who had witnessed the defendant grab the victim by her arms, drag her, and then repeatedly strike her on the upper part of her body. When the responding officers informed the defendant he was under arrest, the defendant began hurling threats and insults at the officers and fighting the officers. On scene, the defendant struggled with the officer, kicking at one of the officers. The Springfield police officers were able to get him to the Greene County Jail, where the defendant continued to fight the officers, hurl threats, and kick at the officers. Ultimately, those officers were able to get the defendant booked into the jail without injury to the defendant. Officers Kevin Grundy, Dorian Bernet, David Hatch, and Christopher Laughlin testified at the trial. The victim of the domestic assault did not live out of state and did not wish to participate in the trial. Prosecutors, therefore, presented an evidence based domestic violence prosecution and proceeded without her testimony.

The defendant has a lengthy criminal history dating back to 1998. The defendant has convictions for receiving stolen property, domestic assault in the second degree (2

Subject: Greene County Prosecuting Attorney Press Release, State v. Scott, 1131-CR04526

convictions), felonious restraint, armed criminal action, driving while intoxicated, resisting arrest, stalking, tampering in the first degree, unlawful use of drug paraphernalia (2 convictions), violation of order of protection (3 convictions), domestic assault in the third degree (5 convictions), driving while license revoked, passing bad check (2 convictions), and assault in the third degree.

Resisting arrest has a range of punishment from 1 day to 4 years in the Missouri Department of Corrections. However, because the defendant is a prior and persistent felony offender, he is subject to an enhanced range of punishment and is thereby subject to a range of punishment of 1 day to 7 years in the Missouri Department of Corrections for the conviction for resisting arrest. The conviction for domestic assault in the third degree carried a range of punishment of 1 day to 1 year in the Greene County Jail and/or a fine up to \$1000. Each count of assault of a law enforcement officer in the third degree carries a range of punishment of 1 day to 1 year in the Greene County Jail and/or a fine up to \$1000. Judge Conklin set a sentencing hearing for July 18, 2013 at 10:00AM following a sentencing assessment report by the Department of Probation and Parole.

This case is being prosecuted by Assistant Prosecuting Attorney Stephanie Wan and Christopher Hoeman. It was investigated by the Springfield Police Dept. and Officer Kevin Grundy was the lead investigator assigned to the case.

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