

NEWS RELEASE



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Judge Sentences Jefferson City Man Following Jury Verdict

JEFFERSON CITY, MISSOURI (February 26, 2014) – Circuit Judge Daniel Green sentenced a Jefferson city man to 7 (seven) years today. This sentence was the result of a jury trial held December 5, 2013. The jury deliberated for approximately six minutes before finding Joseph A. Bax, 53, guilty of domestic assault in the second degree, a felony and violation of an order of protection, a misdemeanor, following a one-day trial before Judge Daniel Green in Cole County Circuit Court. Judge Green sentenced him to 1 (one) year concurrent for the misdemeanor offense.

The case stemmed from an incident in the late hours of August 15, 2013, where Bax showed up intoxicated at his estranged girlfriend’s house in violation of an order of protection. They argued and when she attempted to call for help, Bax took her cell phone away from her. She attempted to get help from an upstairs neighbor before defendant dragged her back to her apartment. There he choked and continued to assault her. When interviewed by police later and told that he would likely kill someone if he did not change his behavior, Bax told Officer Jason Ambler, “I know. Eventually she will learn.”

“I am pleased that we were able to hold the defendant in this case accountable for his actions against someone that cared for him,” said Cole County Assistant Prosecuting Attorney Steven M. Kretzer, who tried the case for the State. “The jury acted swiftly in holding him accountable for his actions.”