



NEWS RELEASE
GREENE COUNTY PROSECUTING ATTORNEY
DAN PATTERSON

Contact: Rhonda Ogden, Office Manager – (417) 868-4061
1010 Boonville
Springfield, MO 65802

01/24/2013

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Man Convicted of Assaulting Ex-Girlfriend with Knife

SPRINGFIELD, Mo. – Greene County Prosecuting Attorney Dan Patterson announces that Derwinn L. Cole, 45, of Springfield, MO was convicted late yesterday evening, January 23, 2013, by a Greene County Jury of domestic assault in the second degree, armed criminal action, and tampering in the first degree following a two day jury trial before the Honorable Dan Conklin. The jury deliberated approximately four hours before returning their verdict.

The defendant was convicted of attacking the victim when she showed up to work her shift at the Golden Corral restaurant on North Kansas Expressway. The attack occurred on the morning of January 10, 2012, before the restaurant opened for business. The defendant first slashed the victim's tire and then ambushed her with a knife inside the restaurant. The victim suffered several lacerations including wounds to her back, behind her ear, and on her fingers. Previous to the attack, the defendant and the victim had been in a romantic relationship. The victim and the defendant broke up before the assault, and the defendant was upset with the victim for not calling him back. The defendant has a prior felony conviction for assault in the second degree out of St. Louis County, Missouri. In that incident, he was also convicted of attacking a woman. The defendant's other convictions include burglary in the second degree and driving while intoxicated. Due to his criminal history, the defendant was also found to be a prior and persistent felony offender.

Domestic assault in the second degree has a range of punishment of 1 day in the Greene County Jail to 7 years in the Missouri Department of Corrections. However, because the defendant is a prior and persistent offender, he is subject to an enhanced range of punishment and is thereby subject to a range of punishment of 1 day in the

Subject: Greene County Prosecuting Attorney Press Release, State v. Cole, 1231-CR00270

Greene County Jail to 15 years in the Missouri Department of Corrections for the conviction for domestic assault in the second degree. Armed criminal action has a minimum sentence of 3 years in the Missouri Department of Corrections and no maximum sentence. The defendant will have to serve a minimum of 3 years in the Missouri Department of Corrections before being eligible for parole as a result of the armed criminal action conviction. Tampering in the first degree has a range of punishment of 1 day in the Greene County Jail to 7 years in the Missouri Department of Corrections. However, because the defendant is a prior and persistent offender, he is subject to an enhanced range of punishment and is thereby subject to a range of punishment of 1 day in the Greene County Jail to 15 years in the Missouri Department of Corrections for the conviction for tampering in the first degree. Judge Conklin set a sentencing hearing for April 22, 2013 at 8:30AM following a sentencing assessment report by the Department of Probation and Parole.

This case is being prosecuted by Assistant Prosecuting Attorney Stephanie Wan and Assistant Prosecuting Attorney Philip Fuhrman. It was investigated by the Springfield Police Department and Detective Alberto Estrada was the lead investigator assigned to the case.

###