

NEWS RELEASE GREENE COUNTY PROSECUTING ATTORNEY DAN PATTERSON

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Jury Convicts Man of Molesting his Four-Year-Old Neighbor

SPRINGFIELD, Mo. – Greene County Prosecuting Attorney Dan Patterson announces that Jackson Warren Chambers, 52, of Springfield, Missouri was convicted on May 3, 2024 by a Greene County Jury of molesting a four-year-old neighbor that was staying at his house. The evidence was that the child was staying at Chambers' house in January 2011 during a time that the child's parents had been having an argument. The child's disclosure was made in 2019 during a Child Advocacy Center interview in another county during the investigation of an unrelated matter. The victim remembered being unable to sleep due to her mother usually rocking her to sleep at night. She reported that Jackson began rocking her in a chair and she fell asleep. She woke up to Jackson touching and rubbing her genitals outside of her clothing. Investigators were able to corroborate that the defendant lived next to the victim during the time in question and when interviewed the defendant recalled the night that the victim spent the night at his house.

The evidence at trial included testimony from a propensity witness, who was a young extended family member of the defendant. The witness testified to similar incidents of abuse. Both the charged victim and the propensity witness were young female victims, both familiar to the defendant, both touched on their genitals by the defendant's hand, both remained clothed and were touched under the underwear, both were sleeping or pretending to be asleep at the time of the assaults. The defendant's explanation to the Detective in this case was also similar to the explanation that he provided to the propensity witness when she rolled away from him-and he realized he was caught- he claimed that the girls were just having bad dreams.

The jury trial was presided over by The Honorable Kaiti Greenwade.

Subject: Greene County Prosecuting Attorney Press Release, State v. Chambers, 2031-CR02424-01

This case was prosecuted by Assistant Prosecuting Attorneys Joseph Wantuck and Jacqueline Ledezma Ruelas. It was investigated by the Springfield Police Department and Detective Nate Worland was the lead investigator assigned to the case.

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