



NEWS RELEASE  
GREENE COUNTY PROSECUTING ATTORNEY  
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

JUDGE GIVES DEFENDANT ABILITY TO AVOID CONVICTION AFTER FINDING HIM  
GUILTY IN TWO DOMESTIC ASSAULT CASES

SPRINGFIELD, Mo. – Greene County Prosecuting Attorney Dan Patterson announces that Joseph Richard Mulder, 32, was sentenced on Friday for two separate instances of felony domestic assault against his then girlfriend. During the sentencing the judge suspended the imposition of sentence in both cases which could allow the defendant to avoid a conviction.

Mulder was found guilty after a bench trial of two counts of domestic assault in the second degree in one case and two counts of domestic assault in the fourth degree in a second case. At the trial the victim testified about how on September 13, 2018, she got into an argument with her boyfriend, the defendant, pinned her on her bed and choked her with both hands around her neck. When she pushed him off and tried to get to her phone to call for help the defendant grabbed her around the neck from behind in a chokehold until she bit him to get away. The victim also testified about an assault occurring on March 11, 2020, where the defendant shoved her all about her apartment as well as into various pieces of furniture and to the floor before striking her in the face multiple times. Also presented as evidence to the court were photographs of bruising and abrasions to the victim as well as red marks around her neck and throat. The defendant testified, denying the allegations.

At sentencing the defendant continued to deny any responsibility for the assault. The Honorable David Jones suspended the imposition of sentence on all counts. A suspended imposition of sentence, or SIS, means no sentence was imposed and places the defendant on five years of probation. If the defendant completes the probation without further issues the case will not be a conviction on his record. Prosecutors sought prison sentences in both cases.

Subject: Greene County Prosecuting Attorney Press Release, State v.  
Mulder, 1831-CR05163-01

**This case was being prosecuted by Assistant Prosecuting Attorney Dane Rennie. It was investigated by the Springfield Police Department and Detective David Kenyon was the lead investigator assigned to the case.**

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