



## **Rod Underhill, District Attorney**

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### **200 MONTH PRISON SENTENCE FOR MAN CONVICTED OF NUMEROUS DOMESTIC VIOLENCE OFFENSES IN MULTNOMAH COUNTY**

(PORTLAND) - Today, Multnomah County District Attorney Rod Underhill announced that Justin Douglas Hatchell, 28, was sentenced to 200 months in prison after a Multnomah County jury found him guilty of two separate attacks against his former girlfriends.

The Portland Police Bureau began its investigation into Hatchell in April 2017.

During the investigation, it was discovered that Hatchell, on separate occasions, held two of his former girlfriends against their will at a residence in the 4800 block of Southeast 62<sup>nd</sup> Avenue in Portland.

"The violence exhibited by Justin Hatchell in these cases is particularly alarming," said Multnomah County Deputy District Attorney Kelley Rhoades, who prosecuted this case. "The trauma these women experienced is just evil. These women suffered some of the worst physical and mental abuse possible. The brutality inflicted by Justin Hatchell will be with them for the rest of their lives."

Evidence was presented during the trial that showed in July 2016, the first victim was kept at the residence for approximately three weeks while she was raped, assaulted and strangled.

Evidence at trial showed that in March 2017, the other victim was assaulted so badly that she now has permanent nerve damage to her face. The jury also learned that Hatchell kept the woman locked in his bedroom for a week because he did not want the public to see her injuries.

During trial, the jury learned that Hatchell used a wooden beam to prevent the door from opening, and thus preventing his second victim from leaving the windowless room. The jury also learned that Hatchell

tied a wire on the other side of the door and used it as a second layer of defense to prevent the woman from leaving.

Even after being arrested and booked into jail, Hatchell continued to manipulate and control one of the women. He sent her a letter that tried to convince her from appearing in court.

"The jury in this case handed down the appropriate verdict," Rhoades said.

At the sentencing on Thursday, Rhoades told the court that Hatchell has proven he is not just aggressive towards his intimate partners, but that he is aggressive with members of the community and will attack without provocation. Rhoades told the court that "he is a violent person, a time bomb, and he enjoys fighting."

On February 16, 2018, the jury found Hatchell guilty of two counts of first-degree rape, three counts of coercion, seven counts of strangulation, seven counts of fourth-degree assault and one count each of second-degree assault and tampering with a witness.

The Multnomah County District Attorney's Victim Advocates provided extensive help to both women throughout this case.

Detective Ross Dormady, who is assigned to the Portland Police Bureau's Family Services Division Domestic Violence Enhanced Response Team (DVERT), led the investigation.

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