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Casey Allen Christianson sentenced to 20 years in prison after kidnapping, assaulting his former girlfriend

Today, Multnomah County District Attorney Rod Underhill announced that on January 30, 2019, 45-year-old Casey Allen Christianson received a 20 year prison sentence for kidnapping and brutally assaulting his former girlfriend to the point where she was described as “unrecognizable.”

Christianson appeared before Multnomah County Chief Criminal Judge Cheryl A. Albrecht and pleaded guilty to three counts of assault in the second degree constituting domestic violence, one count of kidnapping in the first degree and one count of coercion.

“What he has done is unimaginable and unforgettable. What Casey did to me was not an accident,” the victim said in court. “I am reminded of what he did to me when I look in the mirror and see the metal plate swollen under my eye where he broke the bones. My mouth is missing teeth and filled with pain. There are scars from the holes on my side where my ribs were broken and where my lung was punctured. The scar near my heart runs down the length of my chest. Under the scar is another metal plate that my body is rejecting. It will be one of the many more surgeries I will have. I still have silent seizures, stutters, short-term memory issues, and PTSD. The other day, I instinctively stuck my face in a bouquet of roses and as I took a deep breath, I was reminded of how I lost my sense of smell. I don’t know what my dad smells like anymore when I give him a hug.”

“[Casey Allen Christianson] violently, and without remorse, beat her systematically for days,” a close friend of the victim said in an impact statement read to the court. “He is a predator. His past shows a pattern of this violent behavior to other women, and he will do it again.”

“The resiliency and courage of this young woman is remarkable. She refused to let this evil attack destroy her. She stands tall each day, and is a symbol of hope,” Multnomah County Senior Deputy District Attorney Traci Anderson, who prosecuted this case, said after sentencing.

This investigation started on June 28, 2017 when law enforcement in Vancouver, Washington learned that an adult female had been admitted into an emergency room with significant bodily injuries. Based on the tremendous level of trauma, the victim was transported by ambulance to a Level I trauma center in Portland, Oregon.

Doctors determined the victim suffered a collapsed lung, multiple broken ribs, a fractured sternum, multiple facial fractures and extreme neck and head trauma. As a result of the severe and prolonged assault, the victim suffered permanent brain damage.

Law enforcement determined the kidnapping and assaults occurred in Southeast Portland. The Portland Police Bureau’s Family Services Division launched a criminal investigation and determined that the victim had been held captive for approximately four days by Christianson at a motel in the 7700 block of Southeast 82nd Avenue.

Law enforcement learned that Christianson had been verbally and physically abusive to the victim in the past, and that in the days leading up to the kidnapping and assaults, their relationship had deteriorated.

The victim told law enforcement she believed Christianson had taken her to the motel to kill her. Law enforcement believe the kidnapping was only interrupted because a family member of the victim called her cellphone by inadvertently using the video chat feature. Christianson answered the call, which gave the caller a glimpse at the victim’s extensive injuries.

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Christianson concocted a story and claimed the victim had been physically assaulted by unknown assailants.

“I was the first person to witness my severely disfigured sister... I could hear wheezing and gargling. It was coming from [my sister]. I thought my sister was dead,” the victim’s brother said in an impact statement read to the court. “[My sister] was broken. Her outgoing personality has changed. She is scared of everything and has been on massive amounts of pharmaceuticals to help with the pain, the anxiety, the depression and the fear.”

During the investigation, law enforcement obtained multiple jail telephone call recordings in which Christianson confessed to the attacks. In these conversations, Christianson described the kidnapping and assaults as “heinous,” and characterized the beatings as the “worst” he has ever given someone.

During the investigation, law enforcement learned Christianson has a lengthy criminal history including multiple prior arrests and convictions for domestic violence assault, kidnapping, tampering with a witnesses, harassment and violating a protective order.

The Multnomah County District Attorney’s Office would like to recognize the Portland Police Bureau, the Vancouver Police Department, the Longview Police Department, the Washington Department of Corrections, the victim advocates and the staff at Legacy Salmon Creek Medical Center and Legacy Emanuel Medical Center for their dedicated efforts working on this case.

This case was litigated by Domestic Violence Unit within the Multnomah County District Attorney’s Office.

If you would like to speak with someone about **domestic violence prosecution**, safety planning or other resources please contact the **Victim Assistance Program** for the Multnomah County District Attorney’s Office at 503.988.3222.

Resources:

- [Multnomah County District Attorney’s Office: Victims’ Rights Guide](#)
- [Multnomah County District Attorney’s Office: Thinking About Safety Planning](#)
- [Multnomah County Family Violence Coordinating Council: Domestic Violence Resource | Phone Numbers](#)

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