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Demarcus James receives 300 month prison sentence for raping a child

Today, Multnomah County District Attorney Rod Underhill announced that 43-year-old Demarcus James received a 300 month prison sentence after being convicted at trial of numerous sex crimes against a child, including rape.

"In this case, a 42 year old man took advantage of a 12 year old girl in the most egregious of ways – by sexually assaulting her," said Multnomah County Senior Deputy District Attorney Amity Girt. "Demarcus James violated the victim's trust and personal boundaries in the most horrific ways on the night of August 8, 2017. Not only is the state's sentencing proposal of 300 months pursuant to the mandatory statutory guidelines, the sentence is also an acknowledgment of the egregious abuse to the victim, a vulnerable child."

Multnomah County Deputy District Attorney Amanda Nadell litigated this case. Shortly after the verdict was read on December 6, 2018, James picked up a cup of water and threw it onto DDA Nadell. He was later charged with one count of harassment. Today, he pleaded guilty to that offense.

Multnomah County Circuit Court Judge Leslie G. Bottomly found James guilty of five counts of sexual abuse in the first degree, two counts of sodomy in the first degree, two counts of sodomy in the second degree, and one count each of rape in the first degree, rape in the second degree and initiating a false police report.

During the four-day trial, the state presented DNA evidence and other evidence of physical trauma to show there was definitive proof that the child was raped and sexually assaulted.

The victim in this case was 12 years old and lived at the same apartment complex as James.

The state also presented evidence that the child returned home crying and disclosed the incident to her mother immediately after the assault.

As the victim was reporting this incident, a third party, known to James, called emergency dispatchers and reported a burglary at the apartment complex. Officers responded and spoke with James who told them that upon returning to his residence, two unknown males were inside his apartment and assaulted him. James was transported to an area hospital.

However, facts presented at trial showed after assaulting the victim, James initiated a false police report by lying about his home being burglarized.

This case was investigated by the Multnomah County Multidisciplinary Child Abuse Team, which includes representatives from local law enforcement, public schools, hospitals, courts, health departments, the Oregon Department of Human Services (DHS), and the Oregon Department of Employment Child Care Division.

The Multnomah County District Attorney's Multidisciplinary Child Abuse Team is responsible for reviewing and coordinating all child abuse and neglect cases in Multnomah County. The team also handles all child homicides, felony child physical abuse cases, felony child abandonment cases, custodial interference cases, and felony sex crimes where the victim is currently under the age of 18 and where the perpetrator is determined not to be a stranger to the child.

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