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PRESS RELEASE
REDDING MAN SENTENCED TO 17 YEARS IN PRISON FOR DOMESTIC VIOLENCE
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A 30 year-old Redding man was sentenced today to 17 years in state prison for domestic violence and making criminal threats. William Ray Palmer was convicted in October by a Shasta County jury of two felony charges of corporal injury to a co-habitant and a single felony charge of making criminal threats.

Evidence presented during the week long trial showed the crimes occurred during separate incidents in March and April of 2008, and were committed against the same victim, who was pregnant on both occasions. In addition to assaulting the victim on both occasions, the defendant threatened to kill the victim during the April assault, declaring "I don't care if I spend the rest of my life in prison, because it's worth it." The trial in Superior Court was heard by Judge Wilson Curle, who also pronounced the sentence.

Palmer has four prior felony convictions, including credit card fraud, escape, being a felon in possession of a firearm and making criminal threats. He was also previously convicted of misdemeanor domestic abuse against a different victim in 2001. Based on his prior "strike" conviction for making criminal threats, Palmer was sentenced as a second striker under California's Three Strikes law and must serve at least 80% of his sentence before he will be eligible for parole.

The case was prosecuted by Deputy District Attorney Brian Popkes and was investigated by Redding Police officers Bounpon Kongkeoviman and Brian Moore, as well as District Attorney Investigator Mike Wallace.