



OFFICE OF THE
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COUNTY OF SHASTA

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39 Year Old Man Convicted of Torture

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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James Edward Strawn was convicted by jury today of one felony count of Torture, one felony count of Corporal Injury to a Cohabitant, and one felony count of Possession of a Firearm by a Felon. The jury found a special allegation of Domestic Violence with Great Bodily Injury to be true.

The defendant beat his live-in girlfriend on Mother's Day of this year, May 11, 2014, and the assault continued into the early morning hours of May 12, 2014. The case was brought to law enforcement's attention when the victim called 911 two days later. The defendant repeatedly hit, kicked, and head-butted the victim for multiple hours overnight, forcing her to get up off of the floor and stand defenseless in front of him prior to each strike. The victim sustained multiple wounds and lost consciousness.

The six day trial concluded today and a three woman, nine man jury returned the verdicts after approximately eight hours of deliberation. The defendant is facing a life sentence in state prison for these crimes. His sentencing is scheduled for October 31, 2014 with the Honorable Judge William Gallagher.

This case was investigated by Deputy Ketel of the Shasta County Sheriff's Department and prosecuted by Deputy District Attorney Amber Zumalt Lane. The victim was assisted by Angela Mellis and Candice Biddle of the Crime Victim's Assistance Center.