



ELLIS COUNTY & DISTRICT ATTORNEY

PATRICK M. WILSON

ELLIS COUNTY COURTS BUILDING • 109 S. JACKSON • WAXAHACHIE, TX 75165 • (972) 825-5035 • FAX (972) 825-5047

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Contact: Habon Mohamed, (972) 825-5035, habon.mohamed@co.ellis.tx.us

JURY GIVES MAN 8 YEARS FOR RUNNING WIFE OFF THE ROAD

On August 21, 2014, Sonny Tyrone Thompson, 61, of Red Oak, was sentenced by an Ellis County jury to 8 years in prison for the offense of aggravated assault with a deadly weapon.

On July 4, 2013, Thompson and his wife were involved in a domestic argument. Thompson tried to prevent his wife from leaving the residence, but she was able to get away. Thompson then chased after her in his truck. Witnesses observed Thompson attempting to run his wife off the road and swerving his truck towards her car. Thompson continued to chase his wife, ramming her car with his truck and ultimately running her off the roadway causing her to flip her car several times. While testifying about the crime the victim became so emotional that the court had to recess the proceedings.

During the punishment of the trial prosecutors presented evidence of a previous aggravated assault Thompson committed against his wife in New Jersey. The jury heard evidence that on March 22, 2010, Thompson forced his way into the victim's apartment, struck her in the face with his fists, and sprayed her in the face with roach spray. Thompson was on probation for this assault at the time he rammed his truck into his wife's car.

At the time of the Ellis County assault Thompson told his wife that she didn't want to see the ugly side of him. During closing arguments prosecutor Habon Mohamed reminded the jury of that statement when she asked the jury to assess the maximum punishment of 20 years.

After the trial County & District Attorney Patrick Wilson issued the following statement: "Once again the citizens of Ellis County have sentenced a perpetrator of domestic violence to prison. Domestic violence is a crime that my office takes seriously. I am grateful for the community's support in our efforts."

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