



May 27, 2011

ATTORNEY GENERAL MADIGAN: ABINGDON MAN RULED SEXUALLY VIOLENT, DETAINED FOR TREATMENT

Chicago — Attorney General Lisa Madigan announced that a Knox County jury deliberated just 55 minutes before declaring an Abingdon man a Sexually Violent Person (SVP) following a three-day trial this week.

Circuit Court Judge Scott Shiplett presided over the trial that began Monday in which the jury ruled that Jeremy Trulock, 33, must remain in the custody of the Illinois Department of Human Services (IDHS) for treatment. Madigan's office handles state prosecutions of cases to keep sexually violent persons in custody.

"This is an offender with a long history of sexual abuse against children," Attorney General Madigan said. "Because of the danger that he will victimize other children, it is imperative that he remain in custody."

In 2005, Trulock was convicted in Knox County of Aggravated Criminal Sexual Abuse of a victim under the age of 13 for which he was sentenced to three years in the Illinois Department of Corrections (IDOC). Trulock's victim was five years old at the time. Among his prior sexually violent offenses was his conviction in 2000 for Aggravated Criminal Sexual Abuse of a 13-year-old. He was sentenced to three years in IDOC for that offense.

To be committed under the Sexually Violent Persons Commitment Act, a person must have been convicted of a sexually violent offense and exhibit a mental disorder. Additionally, prosecutors must prove that the offender is likely to commit future acts of sexual violence if released from custody. Once committed to IDHS, offenders are reevaluated on a regular basis to determine if they continue to meet the criteria for commitment as a sexually violent person.

In June 2010, as Trulock was nearing completion of his incarceration, Attorney General Madigan's office filed a petition for Sexually Violent Person Commitment. Simmons was detained at the Rushville Treatment and Detention Facility until trial. Following Wednesday's verdict, Trulock was returned to Rushville. He will appear before Judge Shiplett for a dispositional hearing on June 30.

Since enactment of the Act, 296 convicted sex offenders have been committed as sexually violent persons. Madigan's office currently has an additional 177 petitions filed with the courts seeking commitment of offenders who otherwise would be released from prison.

Assistant Attorney Generals Patrick O'Brien and Kathleen Nolan handled the case for Madigan's Sexually Violent Persons Bureau.

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