



Local Chiropractor Sentenced for Abusing Own Child

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Jason Bittner, 33, of Mason, Ohio, was sentenced today to the maximum sentence of eight years in prison by Warren County Common Pleas Court Judge Timothy N. Tepe. In October, Bittner pled guilty to endangering children, a felony of the 2nd degree, for physically abusing his daughter.

On February 28, 2018, Bittner's three month old daughter was taken to Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center and was diagnosed with injuries that included bilateral subdural hemorrhages, hypoxic ischemic brain injury, retinal hemorrhages, 28 rib fractures of various stages of healing, a leg fracture, and facial bruising. Medical professionals determined the child's injuries to be the result of abusive head trauma.

The investigation revealed that Bittner abused the child on February 26, 2018. Bittner admitted to causing his daughter's injuries in a sentencing memorandum that he filed with the court. Bittner stated, "[He] was faced with an infant who was endlessly crying and screaming. [His] frustration turned to exasperation and caused him to snap. He lost control and shook his baby." In cell phone extraction data that law enforcement obtained from Bittner's phone, Bittner also stated that he resented that the infant was a girl and that he wanted a son.

Immediately after the February 26, 2018 incident(s) of abuse, Bittner reported that the child was vomiting, seizing, twitching, had visible marks under her eyes, was running a fever, and was unresponsive and incoherent. Despite these symptoms, Bittner, a trained chiropractor, refused to seek medical treatment for the child for over two days and, instead, tried to cover up the abuse he had inflicted. Bittner concocted stories that his wife had put the infant in the wrong pajamas causing the infant to scratch her eyes, and also fabricated a story blaming his two year old daughter for causing the injuries.

At this time, it is unknown what the long-term prognosis will be for the child. Bittner was ordered to have no contact with all minor children.

"Anyone who has ever parented a newborn child understands that it is stressful. But for a father to be so frustrated with a helpless infant that he would physically assault her, cause her to suffer lifelong brain damage, fracture her ribs in 28 places, fracture her leg, and then refuse to get her

medical treatment and instead blame others for causing her injuries—it's just incomprehensible and inexcusable," said Warren County Prosecutor David P. Fornshell.

Fornshell commended Detectives Sean McCormick and Jamie Van Wagner of the Mason Police Department, Assistant Prosecutors Julie Kraft and Steve Knippen, Victim Witness Services Director Jessi Flint, and Legal Assistant Jaclyn Zaczek for their work on the case.



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