



Prosecutor Announces Indictment in “Cold Case” Rape

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Warren County Prosecutor David P. Fornshell has announced the unsealing of an indictment in a “cold case” rape that occurred in Mason in July of 2000.

On February 27, 2017, a Warren County grand jury indicted Brian L. Sundin, 42, formerly of Mason, on a single count of rape. The indictment was sealed pending the apprehension of Sundin, who was at-large. Williamson County, Tennessee authorities recently charged and convicted Sundin of a theft offense occurring in their jurisdiction, and subsequently notified Warren County law enforcement officials upon discovering the active warrant on the grand jury rape indictment. The Warren County Prosecutor’s Office moved to unseal the indictment earlier today.

In July of 2000, a nurse at Brookside Extended Care Center in Mason discovered a large amount of blood in the diaper of a severely developmentally disabled adult female resident of the facility. The victim was transported to Bethesda North Hospital where a subsequent examination revealed trauma consistent with a sexual assault. Mason Police Department crime scene investigators also collected evidence from the scene. Officials from the Ohio Attorney General’s Office tested the diaper and, in addition to blood, discovered the presence of semen. BCI officials tested the semen for DNA, entered the DNA testing results into the nationwide CODIS database, and approximately 16 years later, the testing results “hit” on Sundin’s DNA profile that was entered by the Florida Department of Corrections. Sundin is believed to have made entry to the facility through a single doorway that was discovered to be unsecured at the time.

The severely developmentally disabled female victim died in 2011. However, at the time of the alleged rape, she was non-verbal, functioned at the level of an infant, and required total support for all necessary life functions and activities.

“It’s sickening to think that there are people out there capable of doing something like that to someone who suffered so much in everyday life. My heart breaks for the victim and her family knowing what she went through,” Fornshell said. “Obviously, this case is still in the very early stages. But, I’m so grateful that advances in technology have given us the ability to bring to justice offenders who would commit these types of heinous crimes.”

Fornshell stated that his office has initiated the process to extradite Sundin from Tennessee to Warren County, but the exact date for the extradition and subsequent arraignment on the rape charge is currently unknown.



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