



# **Former Montgomery County Deputy Sentenced to Prison for Felonious Assault and Domestic Violence**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**November 15, 2017**

**DAVID P. FORNSHELL  
(513) 695-1325**

Douglas Gearhart, 44, of Franklin, Ohio, was sentenced today to four years in prison by Warren County Common Pleas Court Judge Timothy Tepe. In October, Gearhart was found guilty of felonious assault, a felony of the 2<sup>nd</sup> degree, and two counts of domestic violence, both misdemeanors of the 1st degree.

On February 15, 2017, Gearhart assaulted his wife and her daughter in their Franklin home. Gearhart grabbed his stepdaughter by her head and neck and shoved her into a door. When his wife tried to intervene, Gearhart grabbed her by the hair and shoved her to the ground, hitting her head on the kitchen island. A few moments later, he pulled his wife into the garage. When the children found their mother, she was on the garage floor semi-conscious next to a puddle of blood, and three of her front teeth were on the garage floor. Gearhart fled the scene, but was later apprehended. The victim was taken to the hospital by squad.

At the time of the incident, Gearhart was employed as a Montgomery County deputy sheriff. He has since resigned.

Gearhart was also ordered to pay \$5,057.43 in restitution to the victim for medical bills.

“I believe Judge Tepe’s multi-year prison sentence against Gearhart is a direct result of his continued attempts to minimize his conduct and failure to accept responsibility for his actions,” said Warren County Prosecutor David P. Fornshell. “I share the opinion of our local men and women in blue who are relieved that he is no longer part of the law enforcement community,” Fornshell said.

Fornshell commended the investigation efforts of Deputy Reil Becker of the Warren County Sheriff’s Office, as well as Assistant Prosecutor Derek Faulkner, Victim Witness Coordinators Melissa Kennard and Lauren May, and Legal Assistant Brenda Berry for their work on the case.



Warren County Prosecutor  
David P. Fornshell  
(513) 695-1325

<http://www.warrencountyprosecutor.com>  
<http://www.co.warren.oh.us/clerkofcourt/>