

Franklin Man Sentenced to Life in Prison for Rape

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Eric Ruggles, 40, of Franklin, Ohio, was sentenced today to life in prison with parole eligibility after 20 years and designated a Tier III sex offender by Warren County Common Pleas Court Judge Robert W. Peeler. In March, a Warren County jury found Ruggles guilty of rape of a child under 13 (F-1), rape of a child under 10 (F-1), and rape involving impaired mental conditions (F-1) for providing alcohol to one of the child victims in order to engage in sexual activity with her.

The jury also convicted Ruggles of six counts of gross sexual imposition (F-3), and two counts of sexual battery (F-3).

Between 2003 and 2012, Ruggles sexually assaulted two girls who ranged between 4 years old and 12 years old at the time of the offenses. The sexual assaults included forced sexual intercourse and fondling, and occurred at various locations throughout Warren County. One of the victims reported the abuse to a parent, and law enforcement was subsequently contacted.

"I'm so proud of those two girls for their courage in standing up to their abuser," said Warren County Prosecutor David P. Fornshell.

Fornshell commended Detective Brandi Carter, Assistant Prosecutor Travis Vieux, Victim Witness Coordinator Jessi Flint, and Legal Assistant Ginger Weigel for their work on the case.



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