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REPEATED DOMESTIC VIOLENCE ABUSER SENTENCED TO 55 YEARS IN PRISON

Name: Gregory Scott Gunter, Jr.
Age: 37
Court: 221st District Court, Judge Michalk presiding
Charges: 1) Assault Family Violence with Prior Conviction, 3rd Degree Felony
2) Strangulation Family Violence, 2nd Degree Felony
Plea: Not Guilty
Verdict: By jury: Guilty on both charges 3.28.23
Sentence: By jury: 20 years for Charge 1, 55 years for Charge 2 on 3.28.23
Sentences to run concurrently



On Monday, March 27, 2023, Montgomery County District Attorney's Office prosecutors Jaime Wallace and Shanna Redwine selected a jury and began testimony in the State of Texas vs. Gregory Gunter Jr. for the charges of Assault Family Violence with Prior Conviction and Assault Family Violence-Strangulation. Prosecutors presented evidence that Gunter was in a dating relationship with the victim when he assaulted and choked her over Easter weekend in 2022. A bystander who witnessed the assault courageously called the police and later testified at trial about witnessing Gunter abuse his girlfriend. The jury also heard from the responding deputy, a detective who further investigated the case, an investigator with the Montgomery County District Attorney's Office, and a Forensic Nurse Examiner. At the close of evidence on Tuesday, March 28, 2023, the jury quickly convicted Gunter on both felony charges.

During the punishment phase of trial, a victim from a previous assault in 2011 testified about her terrifying experience with the defendant when he strangled her until she was nearly unconscious. She testified about the lasting impact the abuse had on her life. The jury also heard evidence of the defendant's extensive criminal history, including previous prison sentences for violent offenses. ADA Wallace asked the jury to consider not only Gunter's criminal history and the victim's safety, but also the safety of the community when deciding Gunter's punishment. The jury returned sentences of 20 years and 55 years in prison. The Montgomery County Sheriff's Office, Montgomery County District Attorney's Office, and Texas Forensic Center of Excellence (formerly TXFNE) provided the evidence and support necessary to bring justice to the victim and safety to the people of Montgomery County.

Prosecutor Jaime Wallace: "Victims of family violence live in terror all the time, but this case demonstrates that if they or someone else who cares can marshal enough courage to call 911, help will come. Here, help came in the form of members of the community, deputies, detectives, medical personnel, prosecutors, and a jury willing to listen to the evidence and put a man in prison who deserves to be there."

District Attorney Brett Ligon: "Some people, and this defendant is a classic example, believe they have a right to hurt others when they choose and can do so without consequence. Gregory Gunter thought that, and now he'll have a long time alone to consider how wrong he was."