

MESSAGE FROM PROSECUTOR SHERRI BEVAN WALSH

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Jury finds child rapist guilty on all counts

(September 22, 2009, Akron) ... Prosecutor Sherri Bevan Walsh announced today that Jason Knapp, 34, of Akron, was found guilty by a jury after three and a half hours of deliberations, of Rape, a felony of the first degree, and Kidnapping (with a Sexual Motivation Specification), a felony of the first degree, Felonious Assault (with a Sexual Motivation Specification), a felony of the second degree, and Child Endangering, also a felony of the second degree, and Gross Sexual Imposition, a felony of the third degree.

Knapp now faces a hearing on a Sexually Violent Predator Specification set for Friday, September 25, at 1:00 p.m. in Judge Elinore Stormer's court. Knapp faces a maximum sentence of Life without the possibility of Parole.

On November 28, 2008, Knapp digitally raped a two-year-old girl who was staying with her Aunt and Uncle. The mother had dropped the child off to stay the night and when she returned the next day, found the child's injuries when she was changing her diaper. Knapp was living with the family at the time of the rape. The child sustained severe vaginal injuries as a result of the rape, but is now fully physically healed. Knapp confessed to the police and to his mother that he did rape the child.