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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

On October 11, 2016, Judge Steinhauser of 155th Judicial District sentenced Jermain Black, 20, of Sealy, Texas, to 45 years in the Texas Department of Criminal Justice—Institutional Division for Aggravated Sexual Assault of the Elderly.

Black was charged with breaking into the home of a 73 year old Sealy widow who lived at home alone and sexually assaulting her at gunpoint in the early morning hours of April 23, 2015.

The case was set for trial on October 31, 2016, but Black decided to plead guilty on his pre-trial hearing date. Under the terms of the plea, he will not be eligible for parole until he has served half of his sentence in 2035.

Assistant District Attorney Brandy Robinson stated, “The victim in this case immediately called the police. Her bravery and willingness to come forward was key in eventually identifying the defendant and securing his guilty plea.”

“This agreement ensures that Black will spend a significant amount of time in prison, that he will be registered for life as a sex offender, and that the victim will not have to relive the incident by testifying at trial.”

The victim has eight children and numerous grandchildren. The children showed their support by appearing for the plea and providing statements about the impact of the crime on the family.

District Attorney Travis Koehn said, “We want to thank Texas Ranger Jeff Owles and Sealy Police Investigator A.J. Manies. They were able to identify the offender and obtain the evidence necessary to put him away.”

“We also want to thank the Houston Methodist West Hospital Sexual Assault Nurse Examiners and Texas Department of Public Safety Lab in Houston for providing expert assistance and crucial evidence in this case. Our county is lucky that professionals here and in surrounding counties can work together to make sure a criminal like this is brought to justice.”