



TRAVIS J. KOEHN
CRIMINAL DISTRICT ATTORNEY
AUSTIN COUNTY
travis.koehn@austincounty.com

ASSISTANTS:

BRANDY ROBINSON
brandy.robinson@austincounty.com
JESSE SKINNER
jesse.skinner@austincounty.com
BENJAMIN NYSTROM
benjamin.nystrom@austincounty.com

ONE EAST MAIN
BELLVILLE, TEXAS 77418
Phone: (979) 865-5933
FAX: (979) 865-5828

An Austin County jury convicted Dale Koehne, 34, of Driving While Intoxicated with a Child Passenger in Judge Steinhäuser's 155th Judicial District Court on May 2, 2018.

Jurors deliberated approximately 3 hours before finding Koehne guilty.

Koehne elected to have the jury assess punishment on the felony charge. After punishment evidence was presented, the jury deliberated about 20 minutes before giving him the maximum sentence of 2 years imprisonment in the Texas Department of Criminal Justice—State Jail Division.

Prisoners sentenced to State Jail generally are not eligible for early release.

Assistant District Attorney Ben Nystrom prosecuted Koehne with help from First Assistant District Attorney Brandy Robinson and Legal Assistant Lisa Tobola.

Fort Bend County Defense Attorney Joyce Phoenix represented Koehne.

ADA Nystrom presented evidence that Koehne was stopped by police on February 25, 2016, after 911 callers reported a reckless driver on Interstate 10, Westbound, coming into Austin County, Texas.

A San Felipe Police Officer arrested Koehne for Driving While Intoxicated. Koehne's 4-year-old passenger was released to a family member.

Punishment evidence showed that Koehne had previously been convicted of DWI, Theft, and Forgery and had violated prior probation and bond conditions.

ADA Nystrom stated, "Dale Koehne had multiple chances through the years for rehabilitation. The evidence was clear the maximum sentence was appropriate."

District Attorney Travis Koehn said, "We're grateful to everyone involved in the prosecution of this case."

"We're especially thankful to the 911 callers, one of whom testified at trial. These citizens immediately reported this dangerous driver. Thanks to their quick action, Koehne was removed from the interstate that night without seriously injuring anyone," Koehn added.

"Austin County roads will be safer while Dale Koehne is in prison," District Attorney Koehn stated.