



## PRESS RELEASE

### **Domestic Abuser Sentenced to 40 Years in Prison for Assault July 19, 2023**

Bryan, TX - On July 13, 2023, Lonnie Fields, Jr. of Bryan was sentenced to 40 years in prison for Assault Family Violence with a Previous Conviction. The 361st jury convicted Fields of the same offense the day before.

The 361st jury heard evidence during trial that on November 2, 2020, the victim of the offense outcried to a friend about abuse that she had recently suffered at the hands of the defendant, her current boyfriend. The victim had visible bruising and scratch marks to her neck from the defendant strangling her, as well as bruising to her arm. The victim's friend called College Station Police and told them about the location of the defendant, who at the time had open warrants for Burglary of a Habitation, Assault Family Violence against a different victim, and parole violations.

College Station Police responded to the address given by the friend. After knocking on the door, the defendant attempted to flee from police, before engaging in a standoff that lasted several hours. During the standoff, the defendant sent text messages to the victim apologizing for the assault.

During the punishment phase of trial, jurors heard that the defendant had previously admitted his guilt to Sexual Assault of a Child. In this incident, Bryan Police tracked the defendant to a local motel after a middle schooler was reported as a runaway by her parents. Inside the motel room, police found condoms, evidence of narcotics sales, and the middle schooler with visible injuries.

The defendant's criminal history also includes prison sentences for multiple assaults against women, as well as an assault against a sheriff's deputy in the Brazos County Jail. Interventions in the defendant's life through both the juvenile and adult probation systems proved ineffective, with the defendant continuing to assault and harm others while on both probations.

While on parole from his last prison sentence, the defendant assaulted and stalked multiple ex-girlfriends, terrorized and assaulted their friends and neighbors, and groped a college student after following her and her friends home from Northgate. This case was investigated by the College Station Police Department, Bryan Police Department, and the Brazos County District Attorney's Office. This case was prosecuted by Assistant District Attorneys Jessica Escue and Anjelica Harris, with assistance of Victim Assistance Coordinator Melissa Carter.

**“Fields has a history of violent behavior, both with those closest to him and with strangers. This sentence ensures the safety of the victims and the community at large. Repeated and violent behavior cannot and will not be tolerated in Brazos County.”**

**—Jessica Escue & Anjelica Harris, Assistant District Attorneys**

