

Niles man guilty of attempted strangulation



A Niles man who was one of the first Ohioans to be charged under the new state strangulation law on Thursday, July 20, 2023, pleaded guilty to a fourth-degree felony charge of attempted strangulation.

Daren Wilson, 35, of Youngstown Warren Road, Niles, will submit to a background investigation conducted by Trumbull County probation officers before he is sentenced by Common Pleas Judge Ronald J. Rice. Wilson faces a potential maximum 18 months in prison.

Wilson was indicted on charges of strangulation and domestic violence in the alleged dispute with his girlfriend in which she suffered a broken blood vessel in her upper lip. Prosecutors agreed to reduce the charge to attempted strangulation as well as dismiss the domestic violence in return for a guilty plea.

On March 27, Niles police met with the female victim who detailed the altercation between her and Wilson that occurred inside an apartment they shared. The disagreement centered around a text Wilson was making. The report states the dispute became physical when Wilson pushed her to the floor. Wilson then grabbed her from behind, roping his arms around her neck and choking her until she blacked out. She woke up, the reports states, and then locked herself in the bathroom.

The new state law went into effect in April 2023 that makes strangulation a felony offense.

In other court action that occurred before Judge Ronald Rice:

- John Euler, 43, of Plymouth Court, Warren, pleaded guilty to a fourth-degree grand theft charge and was sentenced to nine months in state prison. Euler was charged in the theft of a 2013 Ford Taurus from a Warren car dealer in January 2022.
- Xavier L. Fuller, 22, an inmate at Ohio State Penitentiary, pleaded guilty to a fourth-degree attempted assault charge and was sentenced to serve an additional six months in prison. Fuller was accused of trying to throw punches during a altercation with correction officers at the Trumbull Correctional Institution on

Sept. 26, 2022. Judge Rice said the seriousness of the offense necessitated the consecutive sentence in order to protect the public. Fuller is serving a four to six-year term for a series of felony convictions out of Cuyahoga County.

For more information, contact Guy Vogrin of the Trumbull County Prosecutor's Office at 330-675-2485.