

TRUMBULL COUNTY PROSECUTOR'S OFFICE

Dennis Watkins, prosecutor

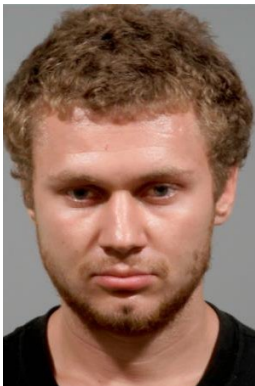
REPEAT VIOLENT OFFENDER NEWSLETTER

UPDATE Nov. 28, 2023

A repeat violent offender and a Tier 3 sexual offender were each sentenced to indefinite prison terms Tuesday, November 28, 2023, by Judge Ronald J. Rice of the Trumbull County Common Pleas Court.



- Randy Pence, age 40, photo at left, of Champion Township, was given an indefinite six- to nine-year prison term for his conviction of two counts felonious assault, first-degree felonies. Assistant Prosecutor Michael Burnett handled the case for the state. Pence was convicted for his part in a 2021 standoff at a Leavittsburg home in which a police officer and another man were hit with an ax. Pence had barricaded himself in a shed on the Meadowbrook Drive property after first striking a man with the ax. When he failed to respond to police orders to come out, Pence threw the ax through an opening of the door when officers tried to come inside and one officer was hit on the arm causing a severe cut, reports stated. Judge Rice read the history of Pence's criminal offenses which began at age 18 and included numerous domestic violence convictions and assaults. When Pence asked him not to give up on him, the judge responded, "You blew all your other opportunities. It is now time for punishment."



- Jack Zeigler, 24, of Avon Avenue, Girard, was given a life prison sentence with his first chance at parole after serving 10 years. Zeigler had pleaded guilty to a seven-count amended indictment charging him with three counts of child rape, two counts unlawful sexual conduct with a minor, one count gross sexual imposition and one count compelling prostitution. According to Assistant Prosecutor Gabe Wildman, Zeigler had conducted a sexual relationship with a male child beginning when he was under 13 years old and continuing for about two years. The relationship was sustained because Zeigler gave the child money and gifts, Wildman said. Another victim was the child's younger brother who was inappropriately touched by Zeigler, Wildman said. The two male victims are now 15 and 13 years old. As a Tier 3 sexual offender, Zeigler if paroled would have to register his address with the sheriff's office four times per year for the rest of his life.

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