

**TRUMBULL COUNTY PROSECUTOR'S OFFICE**  
**Dennis Watkins, Prosecutor**  
Repeat Violent Offenders newsletter  
UPDATE, October 28, 2025



**Warren man gets consecutive prison terms**

John Baker, 65, today was sentenced to consecutive prison terms totaling 19 to 24½ years after a Trumbull County jury on September 4 convicted him of kidnapping and felonious assault of a 70-year-old woman.

The convictions came after a three-day trial in the courtroom of Common Pleas Judge Sarah Thomas Kovoov.

Baker, of Warren, was acquitted of one count of first-degree rape. The jury deliberated for almost two hours before reaching the verdicts.

The case involved an incident on Feb. 20, 2025, at a residence along Summerdale Avenue in Champion Township. The 70-year-old female victim testified Baker attacked her in her home, throwing her on a bed and penetrated her with something sharp. The victim said she locked herself in a bathroom and called for help, as she stated Baker was stabbing the door about 11 times with a knife while saying he would kill her.

State's evidence included testimony from Champion police officers, the victim's family, an emergency room physician from St. Joseph Warren Hospital and a forensic scientist with the Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation, who presented DNA evidence linking Baker to the victim's underwear, and 28 exhibits, including body camera videos, 911 calls and photos of the knife and damaged door.

Assistant Prosecutor Christopher Becker represented the state in the case. In his closing statements, Becker stated police body camera footage showed Baker to be intoxicated. Evidence showed the defendant gave police conflicting statements, claiming he was engaged in a "sex-a-thon," yet later telling officers he was impotent.

In pronouncing sentence, Judge Kovoov told Baker "you terrorized this poor woman" and stated the consecutive sentence reflects the seriousness of the offenses and the defendant's conduct, which showed a lack of remorse.

For more information, contact Guy M. Vogrin, investigator / public information officer for the Trumbull County Prosecutor's Office at 330-675-2485.