

Inmate gets extra time for prison fight



A former inmate from Trumbull Correctional Institution on Wednesday, August 16, 2023, received a five to seven and a half year prison sentence which will be added onto his 11-year sentence given out of Stark County.

Carl A. Spencer, 32, who is now incarcerated at Toledo Correctional Institution serving his sentence for convictions of involuntary manslaughter, abuse of a corpse, abduction and tampering with evidence, pleaded guilty to a second-degree felonious assault charge before Judge Cynthia Rice of Trumbull County Common Pleas Court. The charges stem from an April 2, 2023, altercation at the Warren prison where Spencer punched a female corrections officer in the face and continued the attack as they fell to the ground. The officer suffered broken bones in her vertebrae and thigh, according to prosecutors. A report said the inmate staged the attack in retaliation because the correction officer had confiscated his "hootch."

Spencer was originally sentenced on charges connected to the death of Nicholas Stein, whose remains were found buried in the backyard of a Massillon home in April 2018. Stein had been reported missing since January 2017.

The following action was taken Monday, Aug. 14, 2023, before Judge Cynthia Rice:

- Jennifer L. Zurick, 49, of Niles, received a one-year prison term after pleading guilty to one count aggravated vehicular assault and one count OVI. The case involved a November 2022 vehicle crash at North Road and Sunnybrook Drive in Howland that seriously injured one of her teen children. The car Zurick was driving struck a utility pole after going over a curb and hitting two mailboxes and a sewer cover. A search of the vehicle by state troopers led to the discovery of 11 empty containers of whiskey in the front seat, according to a police report. The woman's 15-year-old child suffered a lacerated liver and spleen, while the other children in her vehicle suffered minor injuries. Zurick also received a two-year operator's license suspension and was fined \$375.

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