



PRESS RELEASE

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On November 17, 2014, Dewayne Edward Sheren, 47, of Sherman, pled guilty to two charges of Aggravated Sexual Assault of a Child and was sentenced to 17 years in prison. The sentence, handed down by 397th District Court Judge Brian Gary, was the product of a plea agreement Sheren reached with the Grayson County District Attorney's Office.

On August 6, 2013, Sherman police responded to a report made to the local Child Protective Services office by Jessica Sheren, 21. Ms. Sheren reported that she had been at the home of her father, Dewayne Sheren, on Grant Street in Sherman, and had walked in on her father in a bedroom in contact with a 12 year old relative in a manner that made Ms. Sheren believe the child was being abused. Sherman Police Detective Kevin Coveney began an investigation into the report. The child was taken to the Grayson County Children's Advocacy Center for an interview in which she ultimately reported that Sheren had been having sexual contact with her for more than a year. Detective Coveney executed a search warrant at Sheren's home and recovered items which corroborated the girl's account. Officers continued to interview other young female relatives and ultimately discovered a second girl who reported that Sheren had abused her several years earlier, when she was 12 years old.

"This was just a tragic case," said Grayson County District Attorney Joe Brown. "A jury would have given this man more time, but we visited at length with the family, and they were very concerned about putting these girls through a trial. One of the girls had been abused by another male relative, and we wanted to avoid them reliving it if we could get a significant sentence. This will keep Sheren in jail for a long time, avoid an appeal of the case, and require sex offender registration for the rest of his life."

Sheren will not be eligible for parole until at least half of his sentence is served. Assistant District Attorney Bi Hunt prosecuted the case. Sheren was represented by Sherman attorney John Hunter Smith.