



**PRESS RELEASE**  
**9-24-2014**

On Tuesday, September 23, 2014, a Grayson County jury convicted Timothy James Fryar, 38, of Denison, of one felony count of Assault Family Violence with a Previous Conviction. Following a two day jury trial in the 15th District Court jurors deliberated less than 30 minutes before finding Fryar guilty. Fryar chose to have his punishment set by the judge instead of a jury and was sentenced to 8 years in prison by District Judge Jim Fallon.

On December 24th, 2013, Grayson County Sheriff's Deputies were dispatched to a residence in the Loy Lake area in Denison on a domestic disturbance call. The caller, a 62 year old disabled man, claimed Fryar, his son-in-law, had assaulted him. The man claimed that Fryar had been drunk, loud, and disruptive in the home. The victim told Fryar to quiet his behavior or the police would be called. The man told officers Fryar attacked him at that time, repeatedly punching him in the head and was attempting to break down his door. By the time deputies arrived at the scene Fryar had already fled. Deputy Dustin Stacks spoke with witnesses and photographed the scene, including the victim's injuries and the damage which was done to the door. Deputies were still on the several acre property searching for the defendant when they received a second 911 call from the victim claiming Fryar had returned to the house. Deputies immediately surrounded the home to prevent Fryar from escaping. From his vantage point in the backyard, Deputy Martin Hall was able to see Fryar through a window. Deputies were allowed back into the home and eventually found Fryar hiding behind a door in an upstairs apartment. Fryar resisted arrest, but after a short struggle was taken into custody.

At trial, Deputies testified that Fryar was highly intoxicated and unable to give simple answers to their questions regarding his age and date of birth. He later passed out at the hospital where he had been taken for treatment for the minor injuries he sustained during his fight with police. The victim testified and described the injuries he received, including a laceration to his face and bruised ribs. Assistant District Attorney Matt Johnson, who prosecuted the case, showed jurors photographs of Fryar's swollen, scratched knuckles, later arguing that these injuries were exactly what jurors should expect to see after the kind of assault that had been described to them by the victim. Johnson also called to the stand the victim's 9 year old granddaughter who witnessed the assault.

"One of the most tragic consequences of family violence is the effect it has on the young children who witness it," said Johnson. "I'm so proud of Alexi for being brave and for standing up for the truth. She came and told the jury what she saw and I believe it made the difference."

The charge against Fryar carried a punishment range of 2 to 20 years in prison and up to a \$10,000 fine. Fryar will be eligible for parole after he serves two years in prison. Fryar was represented by local attorney Enid Williams.