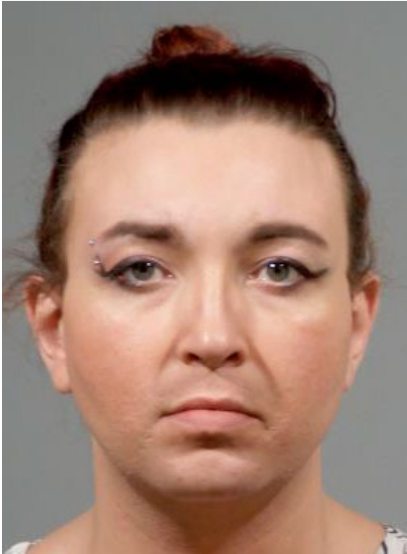


Girard man found guilty of rape

A Trumbull County jury found Shane Newton guilty on three of the four charges involving the sexual assault of a then 9-year-old girl at a Warren home.



After deliberating eight hours to complete the three-day trial on Wednesday afternoon, the jurors returned guilty verdicts on both gross sexual imposition charges, and on one count of rape. The panel returned one not guilty verdict on a second rape count.

Newton, 32, of Louise Lane in Girard, who is transitioning to a female, faces a possible 25-year to life or life without parole terms. Trumbull County Common Pleas Judge Andrew D. Logan has set a sentencing hearing for June 27. In addition, the charges of gross sexual imposition carry a potential five-year sentence for each count.

Assistant Prosecutor Diane Barber called five witnesses to the stand, including the victim who is now 11 and lives in Texas with her paternal grandmother. The victim told of the abuse which took place at a Belle Street home sometime between March and June in 2021.

Also testifying for the state were representatives of the Trumbull County Children Services and the Children Advocacy Center in Boardman, who told jurors about their interviews and examinations with the victim. A nurse practitioner with the CAC told that an physical exam showed positive evidence of abuse.

The defendant took the stand in his own defense, denying the accusations.

For more information, contact Guy Vogrin, Trumbull County Prosecutor's office, 330-675-2485.