

Union County State's Attorney

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Press Release - For Immediate Release

Defendant's Name: Steven Ponnequin Jr.,
Age: 26
City/State of residence: Canadian, Oklahoma
Criminal File Number: 13-389
Convicted of: Aggravated Assault 22-18.1.1 (2) (F3)
Date of Sentencing: July 7, 2014
Arresting Officer: Jason Amdahl BPD
Sentence Modification Hearing: December 7, 2015 (Denied - See below)

Case Synopsis:

On December 11, 2013, Steven Ponnequin Jr., was arrested at Bertz Bar & Grill for assaulting another patron by the name of Harley Navarrete. Ponnequin used a beer bottle to assault Navarrete and when the beer bottle broke, Ponnequin continued to strike Navarrete while verbally informing Navarrete that he was going to kill him. Employees, other patrons, and friends of both Navarrete and Ponnequin intervened in the altercation and pulled Ponnequin off of Navarrete. Navarrete, who was obviously intoxicated had asked Ponnequin's wife to dance. Ponnequin slashed Navarrete's cheek open about 9 centimeters as well as another long gash on the back of Navarrete's neck. Navarrete was transported to the hospital and underwent surgery to repair the gashes left by the broken beer bottle that Ponnequin wheeled. At this time and without more medical intervention, Navarrete will have a permanent scar on his cheek and neck. Ponnequin was found guilty of Aggravated Assault against Navarrete at the conclusion of a jury trial.

Sentencing Synopsis:

On the charge of Aggravated Assault, Steven Ponnequin was denied a suspended imposition and was sentenced to ten (10) years suspended sentence with three (3) years supervised probation. To pay all court fines and fees, and he must spend One Hundred Twenty (120) days in jail, which has been deferred to November 1st, 2014. Ponnequin must pay restitution to the victim.

Criminal History:

This is Steven Ponnequin's first felony conviction.

Sentence Modification Hearing:

On December 7, 2015, the Court held a hearing on the Defendant's motion to modify the sentence in this case to have the Court grant the Defendant a suspended imposition of sentence. This request, if granted would have removed the jury's conviction of the Defendant and sealed the Defendant's record. The Court denied the Defendant's motion in its entirety and the Judgment and conviction of Steven Ponnequin Jr., shall remain on his permanent criminal record. This does not preclude the possibility of a Governor's pardon. The Defendant's motion to modify was opposed by the State, and the victim.