

Ozark man gets 25 years for burglary, sex crimes

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OZARK — An Ozark man pleaded guilty Friday to charges of burglary and various sex crimes for breaking into a woman's house and raping her.

Dale County Circuit Judge P.B. McLauchlin sentenced

Nathan Len Wallace, 37, to 25 years in prison after

pleading guilty to first-degree rape, sodomy, sexual abuse, kidnapping and burglary.

If he had gone to trial and been convicted, he could have faced life sentences for each of the crimes, except sexual abuse, which is a class B felony that carries between two and 20 years in a state prison.

According to Ozark Police Chief Tony Spivey, Wallace broke into the rear of the victim's residence and waited for about three hours before the victim returned home.

Wallace then attacked her and forced her into her home, where he sexually assaulted her for about two hours before fleeing when her husband arrived, according to Spivey.

Dale County District Attorney Kirke Adams said it appeared the only connection between Wallace and

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Dale County district attorney



Nathan Wallace

the victim was that they both lived within the same community on Marley Mill Road.

Adams said Wallace underwent hours of psychological testing before the plea and doctors agreed he would have been competent to stand trial.

"The only positive in this case is that he pled guilty and our victim did not have to relive this traumatizing event on a witness stand," Adams said.

"I thank her and all other victims who are willing to help us and put people like this behind bars."

Defense attorney David Robinson, who represented Wallace, said he had gone over with Wallace the charges and penalties and that Wallace wanted to plead guilty.

"I talked to him in detail about my role and told him it was a possibility for parole after about a third of the sentence, but that I don't believe that he may get out before his sentence is over. He said he understands," Robinson said.