

# Man gets 25 years for domestic stabbing

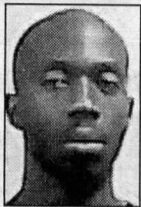
BY MATT ELOFSON

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A convicted sex offender received a 25-year prison sentence for stabbing his former girlfriend's new boyfriend in the back.

Geneva County District Attorney Kirke Adams said Circuit Court Judge William Filmore sentenced Paul Lawrence Reynolds, 31, of Chancellor, to a 25-year prison term for a

felony second-degree assault conviction. Adams



Reynolds

said Reynolds entered what's referred to as blind guilty plea earlier this month, which means there was no agreed upon sentence as part of the guilty plea.

Adams submitted three

prior felony convictions to the court and asked that Reynolds be sentenced under the habitual offender act. The court granted the prosecution's request, which enhanced Reynolds sentencing range to 15 to 99 years or life in prison. Adams said Reynolds had multiple prior felony convictions, including second-degree assault, second-degree rape, drug distribution and escape.

"We wanted a sentence that would make sure the defendant did not receive good time, which in this case he will not because it's over 15 years," Adams said.

Adams said at the time of the April 2014 assault offense, Reynolds was on probation for a violation of the community notification act. Reynolds was convicted of felony second-degree rape in Gene-

va County in 2002.

Adams said the co-sentenced Reynolds stabbing his former girlfriend's new boyfriend in the back.

"They had an altercation and the victim tried to walk away and he stabbed him in the back," Adams said. "Based on his history that community was just not safe. Hopefully, the way they will have some peace."