

Enterprise man gets 25 years for rape

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A convicted sex offender charged with raping a 13-year-old girl just two weeks after his release from a 10-year prison sentence pleaded guilty to the crime last week.

Tamarus Lee Johnson, 33, of Rucker Boulevard in Enterprise, was sentenced to serve 25 years in prison for first-degree rape, according to court records.

According to Dale County District Attorney Kirke Adams, Johnson had been released from prison two weeks before July 18, 2010, when he claimed to be drunk before raping a 13-year-old girl.

Johnson was indicted on the charge in January. He pleaded guilty and was sentenced last week.

A trial in the case was expected next month.

Adams said DNA evidence linked Johnson

to the crime before the plea.

The case was investigated by the Enterprise Police Department but was in the Dale County jurisdiction, Adams said. Adams said Johnson's previous prison term was from a sex abuse case in Coffee County.

"It's very rare that any of these type cases have DNA evidence, but we did in this case. It's also unusual that someone would accept such a plea offer, but we are grateful that the victim in this case will not have to relive the trauma that happened while on a witness stand," he said.

Adams said Johnson is expected to serve at least 85 percent of his prison sentence, but that Adams' office and the victim's family have agreed to work together to assure Johnson serves the full sentence.

A defense attorney in the case could not be reached for comment.