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## **Man Guilty of Murdering Girlfriend's Unborn Child Sentenced**

*State v. Tanner Devon Hopkins, 2015-CR-0121*

**DAYTON, OH (04/28/2016)** – Prosecutor Mat Heck, Jr. announced today that **Tanner Devon Hopkins**, 25, of Dayton, was sentenced to 46 years to life years in prison for beating his pregnant girlfriend and causing the death of their unborn child.

On January 13, 2015, police and medics responded to a 911 call on Edison Street in Dayton. They found the pregnant victim lying in the street, crying for help. She was vomiting heavily and had signs of substantial bruising on her chest and stomach. They transported the victim to the hospital. An emergency C-Section was performed, but her baby was found to be deceased. The cause of death was later determined to be from blunt force trauma.

After a jury trial, the defendant was found guilty as charged of Murder, Involuntary Manslaughter, Reckless Homicide, and Felonious Assault. In addition, the court found the defendant guilty of two counts of Having Weapons While Under Disability.

The defendant was on probation at the time of this vicious attack, having been convicted in 2013 of Aggravated Assault and Having Weapons While Under Disability, for shooting at the car of another ex-girlfriend. In 2009, the defendant received a two-year prison sentence after he was convicted of Felonious Assault for punching an off-duty police officer in the face, breaking her nose. The officer was working as a loss prevention officer at a Kroger store when she caught the defendant shoplifting some candy bars.

Prosecutor Heck added, "This violent and dangerous defendant clearly needs to be in prison and locked away. He has assaulted three women – shooting at one, and punching and beating the other two. This defendant deserves the maximum penalty of incarceration. Clearly, the prior probation sentencing by the former judge didn't work well for this victim or the community."

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