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Dustin Rybak Sentenced for Manslaughter in Death of 19-Month-Old

State v. Dustin Rybak 2013-CR-1102/1

DAYTON, OH (03/31/2016) – Prosecutor Mat Heck, Jr. announced today that 28-year-old **Dustin Rybak**, of Dayton, was sentenced to a total of 18 years in prison for causing the death of 19-month-old Takota Hasty on April 8, 2013.

On Sunday, April 7, 2013 a Sheriff's Deputy was called to Dayton Children's Hospital on a report of possible child abuse. The victim, Takota Hasty, had been brought to the hospital in complete cardiopulmonary arrest; he had no pulse and was not breathing. The infant was found to have numerous bruises, abrasions, and a number of burn marks. The victim was placed on life support, but had no brain activity and was removed from life support and died the next afternoon.

An autopsy determined the cause of death was from blunt force trauma to the head and neck.

On August 30, 2013, the defendant and Crystal Laurel, the mother of the victim, were indicted by the Montgomery County Grand Jury. On September 5, 2013, defendant Laurel pled guilty as charged to Involuntary Manslaughter, Permitting Child Abuse, Endangering Children, and Tampering With Evidence. She remains in custody awaiting sentencing.

Today, the defendant Rybak was sentenced to 11 years for involuntary manslaughter, 36 months for endangering children, 36 months for tampering with evidence and 12 months on a second count of tampering with evidence. All sentences were ordered to be served consecutively, for a total of 18 years in prison.

Prosecutor Heck continued, "This toddler was abused, beaten and burned to the point that his injuries proved fatal. The defendants even tried to cover up the child's injuries with makeup before taking him to the hospital. Despicable treatment of an innocent and defenseless child, such as these defendants committed, warrants being locked up for a very long time."

Co-defendant Laurel will be sentenced at a later date.

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