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Day, Date, Year

Cuyahoga Falls Man Convicted of Raping, Assaulting Child *Zachary Meyerson Sentenced to Life in Prison*

AKRON, Ohio (date) – Summit County Prosecutor Sherri Bevan Walsh announced today that a Summit County jury found Zachary Meyerson, 26, of Americana Drive in Cuyahoga Falls, guilty of raping and brutally beating his girlfriend's three-year-old son.

Jurors found Meyerson guilty of the following charges:

- Rape – a felony of the 1st degree
- Felonious Assault – a felony of the 2nd degree
- Endangering Children – a felony of the 2nd degree
- Endangering Children – a felony of the 3rd degree

Summit County Common Pleas Court Judge Alison McCarty immediately sentenced Meyerson to life in prison, with parole eligibility after 25 years. Judge McCarty also designated Meyerson a Tier III sex offender. If Meyerson is ever released from prison, he would have to register with the local sheriff's department every 90 days for the rest of his life.

"Zachary Meyerson tortured and abused this innocent child. He violated the trust between child and caregiver and caused significant injuries" said Prosecutor Walsh. "Thankfully the child appears to have made a full recovery after spending weeks in the hospital. However the emotional impact of what happened is still unknown."

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In May of 2015, Meyerson was alone watching the child while the mother went to work. Meyerson burned the boy on the buttocks, arm, back and face with a cigarette lighter, and shook and slammed the child's head into a wall. The boy was unconscious and remained that way for several hours. Meyerson never called 9-1-1 for help. The mother returned home hours later and immediately called 9-1-1. The boy was rushed to the hospital where doctors discovered a brain bleed and performed emergency surgery which saved his life. Investigators also determined Meyerson shoved an object in the boy's rectum.