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## NEWS RELEASE

**Date/Time of Release:** February 23, 2022, 2:15pm  
**From:** Patricia W. Perlow, District Attorney  
**RE:** Edward Blake Trial Outcome

In September 2019, a Springfield woman reported she had been drugged and sexually assaulted by a man she met online, whom she believed was a paramedic. Evidence in the case resulted in Springfield Police Department detectives arresting Edward Augustus Blake (now age 45) for those alleged crimes. By late October, two additional women came forward reporting Blake had subjected them to sexual acts after administering intravenous controlled substances. In February 2020, the Lane County Grand Jury returned an indictment charging Blake with crimes related to two of the women.

After a series of pre-trial hearings, the State agreed the cases involving the two women should not be tried together. In November 2021, the State moved to dismiss the charges related to the original reporting victim without prejudice, in order to proceed to trial on the charges related to the second reporting victim. Evidence produced at trial included Blake's acquisition of controlled substances (including Fentanyl, Ketamine, and Morphine) through his employment, which he then used for the reported conduct.

After a 5-day jury trial on the matter in late January, the jury returned verdicts of guilty on one count of Rape in the First Degree and one count of Sodomy in the First Degree. The jury returned acquittals on another count each of Rape in the First Degree and Sodomy in the First Degree.

On Tuesday, February 22, 2022, the Hon. Charles M. Zennache sentenced the defendant to 25 years prison for his commission of Rape in the First Degree and Sodomy in the First Degree. The sentence for the rape was governed by ORS 137.700 (Measure 11). The mandatory minimum sentence for the sodomy charge was governed by Oregon's Major Felony Sex Crime statute (ORS 137.690) for second-time offenders. Given the length of that sentence, the Court ran the two sentences concurrently. The Court imposed 140 months of post-prison supervision to follow his prison term. The Court also ordered Blake to register and report as a sex offender pursuant to state law.

The District Attorney appreciates the courage it took for this victim to come forward, under the circumstances, and to testify related to her

**experiences with Blake. The District Attorney also greatly appreciates the attention and thoughtful deliberations of the trial jury in this matter, resulting in Blake's conviction. Blake's use of his training and illicitly-obtained controlled substances to commit non-consensual sexual acts on another is a clear betrayal to his hard-working, dedicated colleagues, his profession, and our community as a whole.**