



*GILA COUNTY ATTORNEY*  
*Bradley D. Beauchamp*

## **PRESS RELEASE**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**Tuesday, December 10, 2013**

**PAYSON MAN SENTENCED TO PROBATION FOR  
DOMESTIC VIOLENCE ASSAULT.**

Payson, Arizona – Gila County Attorney Bradley D. Beauchamp announced that on December 9, 2013, Payson resident Zachary King Smith was sentenced to three years supervised probation for two felony counts of Aggravated Domestic Violence Assault.

According to Deputy County Attorney Marc Stanley, who prosecuted the case, on December 29, 2012, Payson Police Officers were dispatched to an address on East Frontier Street in response to a domestic disturbance in progress. While en route, the Payson Police Department dispatch received a 911 call from someone who was struggling to breathe. Officers arrived on scene and heard yelling and obscenities coming from the residence. Officers banged on the door and announced their presence. A female voice from inside the apartment began screaming for help. Fearing for the safety of those inside, officers kicked in the door and gained entry into the apartment. Inside, officers observed the aftermath of a violent assault which included blood in nearly every room in the home, broken furniture, and a broken cell phone. Officers made contact with the victim, who needed medical attention, and observed blood all over her face. The victim reported to officers that Zachary Smith and his father Jerry Smith had barricaded her in the apartment and had taken turns beating her. The victim also reported that she had lost consciousness at some point when Zachary Smith hit her. The victim reported that she was in such fear for her life that, at some point in the attack, she hid one of the firearms in the apartment because she feared it would be used on her. As a result of the attack the victim suffered a broken nose, a concussion, and numerous bruises.

Smith was sentenced on December 9<sup>th</sup> by Honorable Peter J. Cahill in Payson. Under the terms of the plea agreement Smith reached with the Gila County Attorney's Office, he could have been sentenced to prison or probation on both felonies. The State argued that a term of imprisonment was warranted in the case given the deliberate, sustained nature of the attack. The Gila County Probation Presentence Report Writer also recommended prison.

The Payson Police Department conducted the investigation that led to the successful prosecution of Zachary and Jerry Smith.

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