

Office of the Kane County State's Attorney



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DOMESTIC ABUSER FOUND GUILTY OF STRANGLING GIRLFRIEND

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An Aurora man with a history of domestic abuse has been convicted for strangling and punching his girlfriend.

A Kane County jury on Wednesday, Nov. 14, 2018, convicted 30-year-old **Daniel L. Benson, Jr.** of the offenses of:

- Aggravated domestic battery, Class 2 felony, 2 counts
- Domestic battery, Class 4 felony, 2 counts

The jury deliberated for about 2 hours before reaching its verdict.

Kane County Assistant State's Attorneys Kelli Schmidt and Robert Moeller presented evidence that the afternoon of May 19, 2018, Benson and the victim had been arguing in their home in Aurora. They were in the kitchen and the victim was holding their child when Benson punched the victim in the left rib cage. The victim went into the living room and placed the child in a bassinette. Benson came in and punched the victim in her left upper thigh, causing the victim to fall to the floor. Benson jumped on top of her and strangled her with his hands for about 30 seconds. The victim had earlier called police about Benson's behavior, and Aurora police arrived while Benson was strangling the victim. Benson released the victim when he heard police announce their presence outside their residence.

Benson was convicted of domestic battery in 2017 in LaSalle County.

Associate Judge David R. Kliment set Benson's next court appearance for 1:30 p.m. Dec. 18, 2018, for motions and sentencing. Benson faces a sentence of probation or between 3 and 7 years' imprisonment in the Illinois Department of Corrections.

Benson had been held in the Kane County jail since his arrest in lieu of \$40,000 bail. Judge Kliment revoked bond upon conviction.

Daniel L. Benson, Jr.: Age 30 (d.o.b. 2-16-1988), of the 100 block of South Fourth Street, Aurora, Illinois. Case No. 18CF1026