

***DISTRICT ATTORNEY***  
***47<sup>th</sup> Judicial District of Texas***  
***Proudly Serving POTTER and ARMSTRONG COUNTIES***  
***POTTER COUNTY COURTS BUILDING***  
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In January of 2026, the 251<sup>st</sup> District Court had a jury trial where defendant Anthony Clay Johnson II was charged with two counts of aggravated sexual assault of a child. The victim was his cousin. The abuse happened in 2018, but the victim did not tell anyone until two years later. One of the struggles with child abuse cases is that the abuse often goes unreported for long periods of time. Children are afraid to speak out for a large variety of reasons. Unfortunately, the more time that passes between the abuse and the report, the more difficult a case can become.

At trial, the victim bravely took the stand and testified about what she had endured at the hands of the defendant. She was supported by testimony from the Amarillo Police Department Special Victim's detective who investigated the case, the sexual assault nurse who had conducted her examination, the forensic interviewer from the Bridge Children's' Advocacy Center, and family members. The jury deliberated and convicted the defendant on both counts. The issue of punishment was submitted to the Honorable Judge Anna Estevez, who sentenced the defendant to life in prison on each of the two counts.

The 47<sup>th</sup> District Attorney's Office wishes to thank the victim for her courage in not only telling someone what happened, but in being willing to testify about it in court for trial. The trial would not have been possible without the work our partner agencies did in the investigation. We are grateful for the jury's verdict and careful consideration of all of the evidence.

District Attorney Jason Herring said, "Whenever a child is ready to talk about what happened to them, our office is ready to walk alongside them in any way that we can. We are honored to seek justice for children who have been abused and grateful for the wonderful investigative work done in Potter County that led to this trial."

Jason Herring  
47<sup>th</sup> District Attorney