



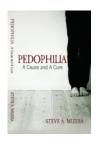
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FRIDAY, OCTOBER 26, 2007

# TX - Former deputy guilty - Gentry sentenced to two life sentences for assaulting girl

Labels: .Texas, /Crime-Police, OffenderMale



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#### 10/26/2007

A former sheriff's deputy was found quilty of sexually assaulting a 6-year-old girl and sentenced Wednesday to two life sentences plus 20 years.

Roger Dale Gentry, 69, a longtime sheriff's

investigator in Cass County, will serve the sentences one after another.

The case was initially moved from Cass County to Bowie County because of pretrial publicity. A trial began at the Bowie County Courthouse in New Boston in late September. That trial ended abruptly because of issues with the jury, prompting 5th District Judge Ralph Burgess to declare a mistrial.

A second change of venue was granted by Burgess after the mistrial. Gentry ultimately faced a jury in Franklin County. The trial began in Mount Vernon last week.

"When I told her, she just broke down in tears," said the victim's mother. "We still have some things to overcome, but this is a step in the right direction."

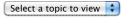
Gentry sexually assaulted the girl in various ways during 2005 while babysitting her. He was convicted Wednesday on two counts of aggravated sexual assault of a child and received life sentences for both. For a charge of indecency with a child with sexual...

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