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December 19, 2019

Jury convicts man of numerous offenses including assault, unlawful use of a weapon

Today, Multnomah County District Attorney Rod Underhill announced that a jury convicted 45-year-old Rodney Rodell Henry of assault and numerous other criminal offenses following a three day trial, which was handled by the Neighborhood/Strategic Prosecution Unit of the District Attorney's Office.

"Every time Rodney Rodell Henry is confronted with wrongdoing, he responds by wanting to start a fight," said Multnomah County Deputy District Attorney Kevin Demer, who prosecuted this case.

The jury found that on June 7, 2019, during Fleet Week, Henry intentionally rode his bicycle into the back of a man who was walking away from Henry, and that after Henry got off his bike to fight that man, Henry flipped open and brandished a knife toward the victim.

When a nearby street artist encouraged Henry to calm down, Henry responded by swiping the knife toward the street artist's throat. Law enforcement reviewed surveillance video that a nearby business owner uploaded to [YouTube](#) as part of their investigation.

A passerby testified that he was in the area taking cityscape photos with a high resolution camera and testified that he took photos of Henry armed with the knife and provided those photos to police. The images, taken by Abel Jones, were submitted as evidence during the trial and are being included with this press release with the permission of Mr. Jones and pursuant to Oregon public records law.

After the incident in Ankeny Alley, Henry rode his bicycle to Tom McCall Waterfront Park where he approached a group of people and suddenly punched a man in the jaw. During trial, Henry testified that the victim was smoking marijuana near the moored military ships and that he wanted to "eliminate the threat."

During trial, the state presented evidence that revealed when speaking with police on June 7, Henry threatened to stab officers and claimed he was trying to locate a gun to kill them.

Additionally, the jury found Henry responsible for using a plastic rowing oar and shoving it into the chest of a woman.

The victim in that incident testified that on August 25, 2018, she and several other people were at a charity event for children with cancer. The event included dragon boat races. While at the event, someone saw Henry inside a space designated exclusively for participants and later he was seen walking away with a rower's oar and backpack. The victim testified when she asked for the property back, Henry shoved the oar into her chest.

The jury also found Henry responsible for assaulting a victim and causing property damage in the 200 block of Northeast Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard on December 31, 2018, where Henry, after becoming upset, struck the victim and broke a door, almost knocking it out of its frame. The incident happened at a facility that provides services to people in need.

The jury convicted Henry of three counts of unlawful use of a weapon, one count of assault in the fourth degree, two counts of attempted assault in the fourth degree, two counts of harassment, and one count of criminal mischief in the second degree.

Sentencing in this matter is scheduled for January 24, 2020.

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The Multnomah County District Attorney's Neighborhood/Strategic Prosecution Unit reviews cases that stem from neighborhood-specific concerns. The unit is primarily responsible for interfacing with the community over specific issues, and handles all types of cases across the criminal justice spectrum to include misdemeanors and homicides.

Like in all criminal and civil matters, electronic copies of court documents, which are not subject to a protective order, are available to the public through the Oregon eCourt Information (OECI) system.

No additional information can be released by the Multnomah County District Attorney's Office at this time pursuant to the Oregon Rules of Professional Conduct.

#MCDA#

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