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Christopher Hall receives a 20 year PSRB sentence for kidnapping a woman in NW Portland

Today, Multnomah County District Attorney Rod Underhill announced that 39-year-old Christopher Michael Hall received a sentence that commits him to the Oregon State Hospital after a judge found him guilty except for insanity for kidnapping a woman and holding her at knifepoint in front of her daughter.

Hall will be placed under the jurisdiction of the Oregon Psychiatric Security Review Board (PSRB) for a maximum period of 20 years.

The Multnomah County District Attorney's Office was in regular contact with the kidnapping victim throughout all stages of this case. The victim fully supports the resolution. She expressed relief with the conclusion and said she looks forward to moving on from this terrifying incident.

The court found Hall guilty except for insanity on the following cases and counts:

Case Number 19CR50986	Case Number 19CR52677	Case Number 19CR65474	Case Number 19CR55948
Two counts of burglary in the first degree	One count of burglary in the second degree	Two counts of burglary in the second degree	Two counts of burglary in the first degree
			One counts of unlawful use of a weapon
			One count of attempted assault in the first degree
			Two counts of escape in the first degree
			Two counts of kidnapping in the first degree
Incident date: August 2, 2019	Incident date: August 12, 2019	Incident date: August 20, 2019	Incident date: August 25, 2019

Portland Police arrested Hall on August 25, 2019 after receiving information about a disturbance in the 1800 block of West Burnside Street. Police arrived and learned that a mother and her 13 year old child had just left a soccer game and were waiting for a ride when Hall approached them, pushed the victim to the ground and held her at knifepoint in front of her daughter.

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Hall – while using the woman as a human shield – dragged her a short distance from where she was standing until police stopped him at gunpoint and started to negotiate.

During the negotiations, Hall continued to use the woman as a shield until he dropped the knife, let the woman go and ran from the scene. A bystander watching the incident tackled Hall and held him down for police.

Investigators learned that prior to the kidnapping, Hall had broken into a nearby church. He then used a metal chain with a metal padlock attached to it and threatened a church employee. When an officer arrived, Hall swung the chain at the officer's head, but missed. He then ran towards West Burnside Street.

In case number 19CR50986, Hall unlawfully entered and remained inside a hotel room in downtown Portland.

In case number 19CR52677, Hall unlawfully entered and remained inside a separate hotel and its restaurant in downtown Portland.

In case number 19CR65474, Hall unlawfully entered and remained inside two separate commercial businesses in Portland's Northwest District.

Under Oregon law, a person is guilty except for insanity (GEI) if, as a result of a qualifying mental disorder at the time of engaging in criminal conduct, they lack substantial capacity either to appreciate the criminality of the conduct or to conform the conduct to the requirements of law.

The Multnomah County District Attorney's Office recognizes the Portland Police Bureau for their dedicated efforts investigating these cases.

We also recognize Victim Advocates Julie Jacobs, Libby Villa and Chanel Thomas for the advocacy and support they provided the victims.

COVID-19 Notice: *The health and well-being of all employees and community members we serve is a top priority for the Multnomah County District Attorney. Our office is working with the court, defense bar, local law enforcement and other system partners to carefully balance the needs of public health and public safety.*

For information about the operational changes implemented by the District Attorney's Office in response to the novel coronavirus, please [click here](#).

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