

## TANEY COUNTY PROSECUTING ATTORNEY'S OFFICE JEFFREY M. MERRELL, PROSECUTING ATTORNEY

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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**DATE: DECEMBER 16, 2011** 

## ROUSSELO SENTENCED TO SEVEN (7) YEARS IN PRISON FOR DOMESTIC ASSAULT

CHRISTOPHER ROUSSELO (d.o.b. 4-12-1983), of Hollister, Missouri, was sentenced on Thursday, December 15, 2011, to seven (7) years in prison for the class B felony of domestic assault in the first degree, and seven (7) years in prison for the unclassified felony of armed criminal action. Taney County Circuit Court Judge Mark Orr sentenced Rousselo after hearing a brief statement from the assault victim and arguments from the attorneys. Judge Orr had found Rousselo guilty of the two (2) felony charges after a bench trial on September 14, 2011.

Rousselo was found guilty of having struck his girlfriend in the head with a bowl at their home on Yacht Club Lane in Hollister, Missouri, on May 24, 2011. The two had been arguing and Rousselo's girlfriend was packing her things to move out of the residence. The victim testified that Rousselo intentionally hit her on the head with a ceramic bowl, causing a large laceration to her scalp. Photographs of her injuries were admitted during the bench trial. The charge of armed criminal action arose from Rousselo's use of the ceramic bowl as a dangerous instrument in the commission of the felony of domestic assault.

The class B felony of domestic assault in the first degree carries a range of punishment of not less than five (5) years and not more than fifteen (15) years in the Missouri Department of Corrections. The unclassified felony of armed criminal action carries a minimum sentence of three (3) years in the Missouri Department of Corrections, and no maximum. Rousselo's sentences were ordered by Judge Orr to run concurrently with one another.

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