

**For Immediate Release:**

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**Castle Rock Man Found Guilty in Assault of At-Risk Adult in Elbert County**

**Castle Rock, CO** – October 10, 2025. An Elbert County jury has found 65-year-old Daniel Fougner guilty of felony assault on an at-risk person and felony tampering with physical evidence for a violent attack on 80-year-old Richard Wright in October 2024.

The assault occurred outside Wright’s Parker home, where Fougner had been temporarily staying. During a dispute over money Fougner owed, Fougner retrieved a 2X4 piece of wood, and struck Wright twice in the head. The blows caused a subdural hematoma- a brain bleed that a medical expert testified posed a substantial risk of death.

After the attack, Fougner used a garden hose to wash Wright’s blood off the driveway before fleeing the scene. He was later arrested in Castle Rock.

“Mr. Wright is an 80-year- old man who opened his home and heart to someone who was down on his luck,” said Chief Deputy District Attorney Eva Wilson, “When he simply asked to be repaid, he was met with brutal violence. This verdict assures accountability on a man who preyed on the kindness of another.”

Wright was transported to Advent Health Parker Hospital where he was admitted to the Intensive Care Unit and is expected to recover.

“This was a vicious and deliberate attack on an elderly man who could have easily died from his injuries,” said Deputy District Attorney Joe Ratner. “After beating Mr. Wright, the defendant tried to wash away the evidence and flee. The jury saw through that and delivered justice.”

District Attorney George Brauchler praised the jury’s verdict, emphasizing the office’s commitment to protecting vulnerable victims. “When people ask, ‘why have people stopped offering to help those in need?’ look no further than Fougner. Attacking your 80-year-old generous landlord with a 2X4 is a sure signal to society that you don’t belong here. Fougner is going to prison at 65. He knew better and now he will know worse.”

Fougner will be sentenced December 1, 2025. He faces 16-48 years in prison.

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