



For Immediate Release:

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Castle Rock Man Sentenced to 30 Years in Prison for Assaulting At-Risk Adult in Elbert County

Castle Rock, CO – December 1, 2025. 65-year-old Daniel Fougner has been sentenced to 30 years in the Department of Corrections after a violent attack on 80-year-old Richard Wright in 2024 in Elbert County.

The sentence comes after a jury last October found Fougner guilty of felony assault on an at-risk person and felony tampering with physical evidence.

According to trial testimony, 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, prosecutors said Fougner used a garden hose to wash Wright's blood off the driveway before fleeing the scene. He was later arrested in Castle Rock.

"By targeting an 80-year-old man, attempting to interfere with the police investigation, and getting rid of the weapon, Mr. Fougner showed exactly why strong consequences are necessary," said Chief Deputy District Attorney Eva Wilson. "The victim welcomed Mr. Fougner into his home. Mr. Fougner answered that kindness with harm. The 30-year sentence delivers that accountability."

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

“An 80-year-old victim was attacked and lucky to survive,” said Deputy District Attorney Joe Ratner. “Mr. Fougner then attempted to cover it up by washing the blood off the driveway and getting rid of the weapon. The trouble is you can’t wash away accountability.”

District Attorney George Brauchler said although the sentence reflects the severity of the attack, Colorado law still provides avenues for early release. “Thirty years for the violent bludgeoning of an innocent man should mean Fougner will never again draw another free breath...but that is not true here,” said Brauchler. “In Colorado, our offender-friendly legislature has allowed inmates like Fougner-who have committed violent felonies- to be eligible for ‘special needs parole’ under certain circumstances. This violent felon should remain in a place where he cannot attack the most vulnerable in our community. Buh-bye.”

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