



# COUNTY of GALVESTON

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## **JURY SENTENCES MAN TO 9 YEARS FOR FELONY EVADING ARREST**

June 4, 2015

GALVESTON – Yesterday a jury convicted Joseph Michael Warren of the felony offense of Evading Arrest with a Motor Vehicle and sentenced him to 9 years in the Institutional Division of the Texas Department of Criminal Justice. Warren was prosecuted by Assistant District Attorneys Virginia Jones and Matthew Shawhan in the 405th District Court, with Judge Michelle Slaughter presiding. Shauna Correia and Byron Fulk represented the defendant.

Dickinson Police Department Officer Bruce Stewart testified that he was monitoring traffic, in the 5600 block of FM 517, on the day of Warren's arrest. Officer Stewart activated his patrol car's emergency lights to initiate a traffic stop on Warren's vehicle for speeding. Warren made three very quick, evasive turns before coming to an abrupt stop in an unknown person's driveway. Warren quickly exited his vehicle, slamming the door, and approached the Officer Stewart in an aggressive manner. It took Officer Stewart several minutes to detain Warren, who was combative and resistant. The jury deliberated for less than 20 minutes before returning a guilty verdict.

The Defendant faced a sentencing range of two to 20 years because of one felony enhancement. During the punishment stage, the State presented evidence that Warren had a prior 2005 felony conviction for Delivery of a Controlled Substance, a prior 2001 state jail conviction for Possession of a Controlled Substance, and three prior misdemeanor convictions. Following jury deliberations, the jury sentenced Joseph Michael Warren to 9 years in prison and assessed a \$500 fine.

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