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Jurors Return Guilty Verdict after Domestic Assault Trial



ALBANY, NY - District Attorney P. David Soares announced today that ROBERT LADUKE, 31, of Coeymans Hollow, was found guilty after a jury trial of (1) Count of Attempted Assault in the First Degree, a Class C Felony, (1) Count of Reckless Endangerment in the Second Degree, a Class A Misdemeanor, (1) Count of Criminal Mischief in the Second Degree, a Class D Felony, (2) Counts of Criminal Contempt in the First Degree, each Class E Felonies, (1) Count of Unlawful Fleeing a Police Officer in a Motor Vehicle in the Third Degree, a Class A Misdemeanor, and (2) Counts of Attempted Criminal Contempt in the Second Degree, each Class B Misdemeanors.

After hearing evidence and testimony during trial this week, a jury concluded that on September 27, 2017, LADUKE attempted to cause serious physical injury to a victim that was known to him during a domestic assault. The jury found that during the incident, LADUKE used his vehicle to follow the victim through multiple roadways in the Town of Coeymans while repeatedly ramming the car that the victim was driving while it was moving, resulting in a total loss assessment of the vehicle. When the victim ultimately stopped and got out of the car, LADUKE threatened to kill her. At the time of the incident there was an active No Illegal Contact Order of Protection prohibiting LADUKE from having any illegal contact with the victim. An officer responded to the scene and observed a portion of the incident. LADUKE then recklessly endangered the responding officer by engaging in conduct which created a substantial risk of serious physical injury to the officer while he was attempting to place LADUKE in custody. LADUKE then recklessly sped away from the scene, at times exceeding 25 miles above the posted speed limit, and ignoring a separate officer's command to pull the vehicle over. LADUKE was later taken into custody.

In addition, LADUKE was found guilty of violating the order of protection between September 23, and September 28, 2017.

The jury also found that LADUKE attempted to contact the victim from the Albany County Correctional Facility on two separate dates in continued violation of a subsequent duly served full No Contact Order of Protection.

LADUKE was remanded after the verdict and faces up to 15 years in State Prison on the top count when sentenced on March 8, 2019.

Assistant District Attorney Caroline Murray of the Special Victims Unit prosecuted this case.

For more information please contact Cecilia Walsh (518) 275-4710.

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