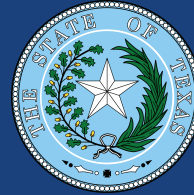


FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



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FORMER COACH GETS 50 YEAR PRISON SENTENCE FOR ASSAULTING YOUNG GYMNASTS

(Fort Worth, TX) -- Skipper Glenn Crawley, 53, a former gymnastics instructor in North Texas and Oklahoma was today sentenced to 50 years in prison after pleading guilty to 4 counts of Aggravated Sexual Assault of a Child.

Crawley was an instructor at Sokol Gymnastics in Fort Worth when reports surfaced he had sexually assaulted 3 young female gymnasts during practices. After his arrest, several adult victims came forward with their own stories of sexual abuse by Crawley, who assaulted them when they were as young as eight while he was coaching gymnastics in Norman and Tulsa, Oklahoma in the 1990s.

In all, charges were filed against Crawley for abusing 11 girls in Texas and Oklahoma.

"The defendant preyed on his victims from the start," said prosecutor Darren DeLaCruz. "Instead of being a trusted coach and mentor, he sexually abused them."

Once charges were filed against him, Crawley was arrested in Indiana after fleeing Texas.

Crawley pled guilty in the 372nd District Court, presided over by Judge Scott Wisch. Many of Crawley's past victims were there to face him in court and shared emotional and inspiring statements about their own personal experiences.

"They were all children who dreamed of being Olympians, and believed the defendant would help them get there. He used his position of authority to isolate them, and used their dreams against them," said DeLaCruz.

END



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