

Attorney General Bailey Successfully Defends Morgan County Statutory Sodomy Convictions

JEFFERSON CITY, Mo. – Missouri Attorney General Andrew Bailey announced today that his office successfully defended at the Western District Court of Appeals the convictions of Harvey Oscar Pendleton for 2 counts of statutory sodomy. In affirming the convictions, the appeals court rejected Pendleton’s claim that the trial court abused its discretion in refusing to strike the entire jury panel.

“As Attorney General and a father of four, I will always fight to hold accountable dangerous criminals who commit crimes against young children,” **said Attorney General Bailey.** “I’m proud of the work my Criminal Appeals Unit put into this case. The Attorney General’s Office will not stop working to obtain justice for victims throughout the state.”

Following an August 2022 jury trial in Morgan County Circuit Court, Pendleton was convicted on two counts of first-degree statutory sodomy against a 13 year-old stemming from an incident in September 2021. Pendleton was sentenced to 20 years in prison on each count to run concurrently.

The Court’s opinion can be read here: https://ago.mo.gov/wp-content/uploads/PendletonHarveyOpinion_WD86122.pdf

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