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NEWS RELEASE

Date: June 3, 2025
From: Jenna Wallace, District Attorney
Details: 28-Year-Old Sentenced to 9+ Years for Recording Sexual Assault of Girlfriend

On June 3, 2025, Lincoln County Circuit Court Judge Amanda Benjamin sentenced Mason Klein (28-year-old) to 111 months (9.25 years) in the Department of Corrections for sexually assaulting his intoxicated and unconscious girlfriend in 2020.

Judge Benjamin sentenced Klein to 111 months at the Department of Corrections for the conviction of Sodomy in the First Degree and 75 months at the Department of Corrections for the conviction of Sexual Abuse in the First Degree, to run concurrently to one another.

Sentencing came after a jury trial which concluded on May 8, 2025, where a 12-person-jury found Klein guilty of Sodomy in the First Degree and Sexual Abuse in the First Degree for forcing his then-girlfriend to perform oral sex on Klein, while he recorded the act. The jury found that the victim was both mentally incapacitated and physically helpless at the time of the act and was unable to consent.

During trial, District Attorney Jenna Wallace introduced evidence that Klein had video recorded the sexual assault on the victim's phone, which recording was later discovered by the victim's mother. Upon locating the video, the victim immediately reported the sexual assault to law enforcement in August 2020. This case was investigated by then-Detective Abby Dorsey, Lincoln County Sheriff's Office and, after being unable to locate Klein, the case was submitted to the Lincoln County District Attorney's Office for charging. A Lincoln County Grand Jury indicted Klein on criminal charges in May 2021 and a nationwide warrant was subsequently issued for his arrest.

Lincoln County District Attorney's Office Detective Martin Bennett diligently attempted to locate Klein given the outstanding warrant. Three years later, and with the help of the Yavapai Sheriff's Office (Arizona), Detective Bennett located and arrested Klein on the outstanding Oregon warrants. At the time, Klein was on probation in Yavapai County for felony Marijuana Possession for Sale, Resisting Arrest, and felony Possession/Use of Drug Paraphernalia. Klein was extradited from Arizona to Oregon for trial.

At sentencing, DA Wallace expressed concerns regarding Klein's inability to take responsibility for his criminal conduct and the harm that he caused. Klein's only comment to the Court before sentencing was "I'm already damned, so smite me".

The Lincoln County District Attorney's Office would like to thank the Lincoln County Sheriff's Office and Yavapai Sheriff's Office (Arizona) for their investigation and assistance in this case. The Lincoln County District Attorney's Office would also like to thank *retired* DA Detective Bennett for

his relentless pursuit of justice by dedicating time and resources to locating and arresting individuals with active warrants to assure prosecution is not stalled by the inability to locate the defendant. This is just one of the important roles a DA detective plays in prosecuting crime and holding offenders accountable in Lincoln County.

Any questions can be directed to DA Jenna Wallace at jwallace@co.lincoln.or.us.