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## PRESS RELEASE

Edwardsville—State's Attorney Tom Gibbons announced today that Torrance Rogers was sentenced to 40 years in prison for the death of his daughter, Taylor Pinkas.

Pinkas was less than three months old in 1999 when she was violently shaken by Rogers, 31, while under his care. Despite the traumatic injuries she suffered, Taylor survived and lived until 2009 when she developed pneumonia that eventually took her life.

Rogers had pleaded guilty to Attempted Aggravated Battery of a Child in 2001 and was sentenced to 15 years in prison. He served approximately seven years. Prosecutors filed murder charges in 2009 following Taylor's death as it had been determined that her death from pneumonia was linked to the injuries she received from Rogers when she was a baby.

On July 19, 2012, Rogers was found guilty of First Degree Murder by Circuit Judge Richard Tognarelli following a stipulated bench trial. Today, Judge Tognarelli sentenced Rogers to 40 years as requested by the Assistant State's Attorney Susan Jensen. He will receive credit for the time he served in prison on the previous battery conviction.

“The Madison County State's Attorney's Office never gives up,” Gibbons said following the sentencing. “We will not rest until we get the greatest measure of justice for the victims of crime, especially the most vulnerable among us. Children are our most precious resource and we will always fight to protect them.” Gibbons commended the work of Jensen and his Victim Advocate Desi Jellen who worked over the years with Taylor's family. He also thanked the Edwardsville Police Department and the medical personnel in Madison County and St. Louis who treated Taylor while offering irrefutable proof that Rogers' actions in 1999 caused her death 10 years later.

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