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**October 15, 2018**

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**For Immediate Release: Dallas County Jury Finds Charles Phifer Guilty of Murder in the Death of a 4-Year-Old Girl**

(Dallas County) – A Dallas County jury found Charles Phifer guilty of capital murder this afternoon in the torture and beating death of 4-year-old Leiliana Wright, the daughter of his girlfriend, Jeri Quezada, on March 12, 2016.

Leiliana's mother will be sentenced to 50 years in prison for pleading guilty to felony injury to a child as part of her plea bargain. Quezada testified in Phifer's trial that in the days and hours before Leiliana's death she and Phifer both hit the child and that Phifer had bound Leiliana's hands with electrical wire and strung her up by her wrists behind her back, and left her hanging from a rod in a closet.

Photos shown in the courtroom revealed a broken and battered little girl's body that was bruised from head to toe. The first responders said it was one of the worst cases of abuse they've ever seen.

The medical examiner testified that Leiliana died as a result of blunt force trauma to her head and abdomen. Assistant District Attorney Eren Price said, "It was my privilege to support the team of professionals who came together to seek justice for Leiliana." Price also commends her co-counsel ADA Travis Wiles for his work in helping prosecute the case.

Both Quezada and Phifer admitted to being heroin addicts and shooting up prior to the Leiliana's death. "This is not a story about drugs. This is a story about a little girl who didn't deserve this. She was an innocent victim," said Price.

The Grand Prairie Police Department worked tirelessly during the investigation and we are grateful for all of their efforts.

Phifer received life without the possibility of parole.