



United States Attorney's Office  
District of Columbia

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United States Attorney

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## PRESS RELEASE

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
February 15, 2011

**USAO Public Affairs**  
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### **FORMER TRANSPORTATION DRIVER IS SENTENCED FOR CRIMINAL ABUSE OF A VULNERABLE ADULT**

Washington, D.C. – Jesse Battle, a former employee of On Time Transportation, a transportation company for persons with developmental disabilities, was sentenced for criminal abuse of a vulnerable person in his care, United States Attorney Ronald C. Machen, Jr. and District of Columbia Inspector General Charles J. Willoughby announced today.

Battle, of Temple Hills, Maryland, was found guilty on February 9, 2011, of criminal abuse of a vulnerable adult after a trial before the Honorable Florence Y. Pan in the Superior Court of the District of Columbia. On February 14, 2011, the judge sentenced Battle to 180 days in jail, with all days suspended except for 30 days, and 2 years of supervised probation.

Judge Pan also barred Battle from working with vulnerable populations, required him to attend anger management counseling, and ordered him to pay \$50 towards the Victims of Violent Crime Compensation Act fund.

According to testimony at trial, on February 4, 2010, Battle was driving an adult with cognitive disabilities from his day treatment program to his home. A witness, who was on the transportation van at the time, testified she saw the victim and driver throw the victim's boot back and forth at each other three to four times. Battle then pulled the van over and punched the victim several times. The victim sustained several bruises to his face and a laceration to the top of his skull requiring three staples.

In announcing the sentence, U.S. Attorney Machen and Inspector General Willoughby praised the work of investigator Victor Richardson and former investigator Meghan Strickland of the Office of the Inspector General Medicaid Fraud Control Unit (MFCU) for their investigation of the crime. Mr. Machen and Mr. Willoughby also commended the work of Assistant U.S.

Attorney John Troung who presented the matter to the Grand Jury, and Demian Ahn and Special Assistant U.S. Attorney Jacqueline N. Schesnol of the MFCU, who jointly prosecuted the case.