

**Bristol County District Attorney's Office
C. Samuel Sutter
District Attorney**

**Press Release
January 22, 2010**

Bristol County District Attorney Sam Sutter announced that Bryan James, 37, of New Bedford, was convicted by a jury of his peers today for assaulting a 3-year-old girl in 2007.

The jury returned its verdict this afternoon around 4:30. Mr. James was convicted of three counts of assault and battery of a child---causing substantial injury and one count of simple assault and battery.

Mr. James will be sentenced in Taunton Superior Court Monday at 3 p.m. He will be held in jail without bail over the weekend.

The defendant was accused of biting off his girlfriend's daughter's upper lip and of assaulting her enough times to deform the girl's ears. The girl also sustained bruises to her arms during the assaults, all of which occurred inside the home Mr. James shared with his girlfriend on Newcomb Street in New Bedford.

Second Assistant District Attorney Silvia Rudman, who is the Chief of District Attorney Sutter's Abuse Unit, prosecuted the case on behalf of the Commonwealth.

The trial lasted two full weeks.