

# Goshen News, Goshen, IN

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## **Court vacates one conviction against Goshen bail bondsman**

### **THE GOSHEN NEWS**

GOSHEN — The Indiana Court of Appeals has remanded a conviction involving a local bail bondsmen, vacated another conviction and asked a Goshen court to resentence the defendant.

Bart Dewald, Goshen, was convicted by a jury of battery, confinement, intimidation, pointing a firearm, criminal recklessness and conspiracy to commit battery in Elkhart Superior Court 3. He received an aggregate sentence of 38 years in prison. He was convicted of trying to hire people to beat a witness and a deputy prosecutor.

The appellate court did not find sufficient evidence to support a finding of conspiracy and reversed the conviction of conspiracy to commit battery. Dewald received a sentence of 20 years, with 10 years suspended, in that conviction.

Judge George Biddlecome imposed an eight-year sentence for criminal confinement, eight years for intimidation, three years for pointing a firearm and one year for criminal recklessness, plus 20 years with 10 years suspended in the conspiracy to commit battery convictions. The judge ordered the two conspiracy conviction sentences to run consecutively to the other four convictions, for a total of 38 years.

Because the appeals court vacated one of the conspiracy convictions and its 20-year sentence with 10 years suspended, the court suggested an aggregate 28-year sentence is appropriate.

The court remanded the case to Superior Court 3 and asked that the defendant be resented in accordance with the court's opinion.