OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY

BLUE RIDGE JUDICIAL CIRCUIT



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Cherokee County Man Sentenced to 15 Years, 8 to Serve for Sexual Abuse of Two Girls State vs. Florencio Alvarez

August 1, 2019 – Florencio Alvarez, 23, was sentenced on July 31 for sexually molesting two pre-teen girls in a Woodstock home. A Cherokee County jury found the defendant guilty on June 28 to two counts of child molestation.

Alvarez was arrested in December 2017 after one of the girls talked to an elementary school counselor who immediately alerted authorities. The girls were 9 and 12 years old at the time. Alvarez sexually assaulted the girls on multiple occasions over the course of two years. He threatened further violence if they disclosed the abuse. Since Alvarez is related to the girls, he was often home alone with them.

Assistant District Attorney Meaghan Frankish and Assistant District Attorney Kelly Chavis prosecuted the case on behalf of the State.

"Because Alvarez is a relative, he placed these girls in a position where they had a difficult decision to make – choose their own safety or break up their family," said Frankish.

"These girls chose justice for themselves and were incredibly brave during the trial," added Chavis.

Judge Ellen McElyea sentenced Alvarez to 15 years, 8 years to serve in the state penal system for two counts of child molestation. Upon release, Alvarez will serve probation with sex offender special conditions including no contact of any kind with the victims or any minors under the age of 18.

"We are thankful this frightened little girl turned to the school counselor for help. Had it not been for this counselor, these girls might still be living the nightmare Alvarez created," said Cherokee County District Attorney Shannon Wallace. "Nothing will restore the innocence of these girls, but we hope this verdict and sentencing will help them heal."

The Office of the District Attorney for the Blue Ridge Judicial Circuit is committed to seeking justice, acting with integrity, and collaborating with partner agencies in the criminal justice system in order to protect the citizens of Cherokee County and the State of Georgia.