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**NEWS RELEASE**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Tuesday, June 25 2019

**McAllen man will serve 15 years on each count for sexual assault of a child**

**EDINBURG** – A McAllen man will serve 15 years in prison for sexual abuse of a child.

Jose Cresencio Zuniga, 42, was sentenced to 15 years for each count; on count one of Aggravated Sexual Assault of a Child (1<sup>st</sup> degree felony), Zuniga was sentenced to 15 years; on two counts of Indecency with a Child Sexual Contact (2<sup>nd</sup> degree felony), Zuniga was sentenced to 15 years for each count; and on one count of Tampering with a Witness (1<sup>st</sup> degree felony), Zuniga was sentenced to 15 years.

“We commend the great investigative work of McAllen Police Department and the Hidalgo County Sheriff’s Department” said Criminal District Attorney Ricardo Rodriguez. “Our office is proud of the exemplary work of Assistant District Attorney Denise Santa Ana who prosecuted the case and all the support staff who worked hard to bring justice for the victim.” The Special Crimes Division collaborated with law enforcement investigators, S.A.N.E. Forensic nurses, Child Protective Services, and Estrella’s House, said Santa Ana.

His plea and sentencing was handed down on June 17, 2019 by visiting Judge Fidencio Guerra in the Auxiliary Court.

If you suspect child abuse please report by calling 1-800-252-5400. The hotline is answered 24 hours a day 7 days a week.

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**Photo:** Jose Cresencio Zuniga