



RICARDO RODRIGUEZ, JR.
CRIMINAL DISTRICT ATTORNEY

NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Tuesday, February 23, 2021

Edinburg man sentenced to 27 years in prison for sexual abuse of a child

EDINBURG – An Edinburg man will serve 27 years in the Institutional Division of the Texas Department of Criminal Justice for continuous Sexual Abuse of a Child: Victim under 14, a first degree felony.

During a hearing held over Zoom on Monday, Feb. 22, 66-year-old Miguel Angel Ruano pleaded guilty to the charges and was sentenced by 206th District Court Rose Guerra Reyna. He will serve all 27 years behind bars and is not eligible for parole.

The case was prosecuted by Special Crimes Division Chief Hope Palacios, who worked with the McAllen Police Department, Edinburg Police Department, Doctors Hospital at Renaissance Safe H.A.V.E.N., and the Children's Advocacy Center of Hidalgo and Starr Counties.

"I commend Chief Hope Palacios and her team for getting this violent sexual predator off our streets," said Criminal District Attorney Ricardo Rodriguez Jr. "If you suspect child abuse we urge you to call our office or report the abuse to your local law enforcement office. It is up to all of us to speak up and end the cycle of abuse."

McAllen and Edinburg police officers arrested Ruano on August 6, 2019. The abuse began when the victim was seven years old and lasted for two years.

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

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Mugshot: Miguel Angel Ruano