



NEWS RELEASE

February 14, 2017
Contact: Sue Lindsay
303-835-5639

Former Elementary School Teacher Convicted of Sexual Assault on a Child

Former Dupont Elementary School teacher Gilbert Joseph Trujillo was convicted Tuesday of four criminal charges in connection with sexual assaults on two female students at the school between 2004 and 2011.

Trujillo (DOB 11/06/49) was convicted of one count of sexual assault on a child by a person in a position of trust as a pattern of abuse (F3), one count of sexual assault on a child by a person in a position of trust (F3) one count of attempted sexual assault by a person in a position of trust (F4) and one count of attempted sexual assault on a child (F5).

“What you expect to hear from children is how their teacher taught them math skills or reading skills or how to love science, but that is not what these girls were taught. The defendant taught them fear, shame and guilt,” Senior Deputy District Attorney Yvette Guthrie told the jury during closing arguments.

Trujillo was charged in June 2015 with sexually assaulting six girls between August 2005 and May 2011 when they were students at Dupont Elementary School, 7970 Kimberly St., where he taught third, fourth and fifth grade. The victims were 9, 10 and 11 years old. The charges were filed after lengthy investigation by the Adams County Sheriff's Office Detective Division that began in November 2013.

The Adams County jury acquitted Trujillo on charges involving three of the named victims in the case. Charges involving a sixth victim were dismissed before trial because she did not want to participate in the proceedings.

The victims testified that Trujillo established relationships with them. They said he gave them gifts including candy, stuffed animals and jewelry, wrote notes and “love letters” to them and arranged for them to be alone with him in his classroom at recess or after school, often with the blinds closed and the door locked. Several of the victims said that Trujillo hugged, kissed and touched them inappropriately on their buttocks, breasts and thighs. One victim testified that Trujillo had her sit on his lap and kissed her. One victim testified that he exposed his penis to her and attempted to digitally penetrate her.

“It starts with candy, then come gifts. It ends with the violation of children’s bodies and violation of their trust by a man who was supposed to protect them but violated their trust in order to satisfy his own sexual pleasure,” Deputy District Attorney Carmen Rickard told the jury.

Sentencing is set for 8:30 a.m. April 18 in Division G of Adams County District Court. Trujillo is held without bond pending sentencing. He faces an indeterminate sentence of eight years to life in prison.

###