



For Immediate Release:
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Defendant Who Sexually Assaulted, Strangled, and Attempted to Drown Victim in a Bathtub Convicted by Adams County Jury

Brighton, CO — Today, District Attorney Brian Mason is announcing the Attempted Murder, Sexual Assault, and Kidnapping conviction of Fermin Gonzalez-Flores, 33. An Adams County Jury returned guilty verdicts on all three charges on Wednesday, August 25, 2021, after an eight-day jury trial.

On January 16, 2020, the victim in this case returned home from work between 11:00pm and 11:30pm. The victim was lying in her bed when her cousin's boyfriend, Fermin Gonzalez-Flores, entered the bedroom. They engaged in a brief conversation before Gonzalez-Flores proceeded to strangle the victim until she lost consciousness. The victim awoke to the defendant standing over her again. The victim attempted to stop Gonzalez-Flores from harming her further by using a knife and pepper spray that sat on her nightstand, but the defendant pulled her to the floor and began to strangle her again.

After he strangled her a second time, Gonzalez-Flores dragged the victim by her hair to the laundry room and then to the landing area near the front door of the home. The victim managed to open the front door and scream for help but that angered the defendant. Gonzalez-Flores strangled the victim again and then dragged her upstairs to the bathroom. The defendant continued to strangle the victim until she lost consciousness. When the victim awoke, she noticed that Gonzalez-Flores was filling the bathtub with water. The defendant grabbed the victim and submerged her head in the water. She attempted to "play dead" on several occasions, but Gonzalez-Flores continued to hold her head under water.

The defendant eventually pulled the victim's head out of the bathtub and dragged her to the bedroom where he proceeded to sexually assault her multiple times before falling asleep. At that point, the victim escaped from the defendant and began to knock on neighbors' doors for help. The victim eventually made it to a coffee shop where she called 911. Thornton Police Officers responded to the home and took Gonzalez-Flores into custody.

"The brutality of this crime is truly unspeakable," said District Attorney Brian Mason. "The defendant repeatedly tortured, brutalized, and sexually assaulted this victim. I'm grateful to the jury for returning a just verdict."

On Wednesday, August 25, 2021, an Adams County Jury convicted Fermin Gonzalez-Flores of 12 counts including,

- Second-Degree Attempted Murder
- Kidnapping
- Assault-Strangulation (4)
- Sexual Assault (3)
- Violent Crime-Used Weapon (2)
- Violent Crime-Cause Death/SBI

Gonzalez-Flores will be sentenced on October 15, 2021, at 8:30am before Judge Priscilla Loew.

Chief Deputy District Attorney Ally Baber and Senior Lead Deputy District Attorney Christopher Rhamey led the prosecution of the case.

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District Attorney Mason assumed the oath of office on January 12, 2021. The 17th Judicial District Attorney's Office endeavors to seek justice on behalf of the citizens of Adams and Broomfield counties in felony and misdemeanor cases. DA Mason and his staff are dedicated to transforming the criminal justice system to better serve the citizens of the 17th Judicial District.

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