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PRESS RELEASE: 7/26/2023

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Conroe Citizen Convicted of Aggravated Sexual Abuse of a Child

Name: Baltazar Fuentes
Age: 46
Court: 9th District Court, Judge Phil Grant presiding
Charges: Aggravated Sexual Assault of a Child
Plea: Not Guilty
Verdict: By jury: Guilty on 7/25/23
Sentence: By jury: 75 years on 7/25/23

Prosecutor Darian Etienne:

“This defendant betrayed someone he should have been protecting. Even worse, her own mother did nothing to keep her safe. The jury’s verdict guarantees that she, and any other children, will be safe.”

District Attorney Brett Ligon:

"This defendant has preyed upon those we all know to protect. The jury has sent him exactly where he belongs."

On Monday, July 24, 2023, Montgomery County District Attorney’s Office Assistant District Attorney Darian Etienne and Chief Prosecutor Laura Bond selected a jury for the offense of Aggravated Sexual Assault of a Child in the State of Texas v. Baltazar Fuentes in the 9th District Court, Judge Phil Grant presiding. After jury selection, the State began to introduce testimony in this case. ADA Etienne presented evidence that Fuentes repeatedly sexually assaulted a young family member between 2018 and 2021, beginning at age 9. The victim courageously reported the abuse in 2021, and law enforcement filed charges against Fuentes. At trial, the jury heard the emotional testimony of the victim, her father, law enforcement, a forensic interviewer, and a child abuse expert.

At the close of evidence on Tuesday, July 25, 2023, the jury convicted Fuentes of Aggravated Sexual Assault of a Child after deliberating for less than an hour.

During the punishment phase, the jury heard evidence of three prior misdemeanor offenses, and the State asked the jury to consider the lasting impact of the abuse on the victim. They also asked the jury to consider the protection of any other kids the defendant may come in contact with when deciding Fuentes’ punishment. The Conroe Police Department, the Montgomery County District Attorney’s Office, and our partners at Children’s Safe Harbor provided the evidence and support necessary to bring this victim justice. Fuentes was sentenced to 75 years in prison by the jury and will not be eligible for parole until after serving at least thirty years.