



DenverDA

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NEWS RELEASE

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FORMER OFFICER'S CONVICTION UPHELD

Denver District Attorney Mitch Morrissey announced today that the conviction and sentencing of a former police officer accused of kidnapping and sexually assaulting a woman in 2010 has been upheld by the Colorado Court of Appeals.

Hector Paez (dob: 10-10-79) was convicted of *second-degree kidnapping* (F2), *sexual assault* (F4) and *false reporting* (M) following a two-week trial in Denver District Court in 2012, and was sentenced to 8 years in prison followed by sex offender probation for a 10-year-to life term.

He subsequently appealed his conviction, arguing that the charges should be dismissed or that he should have a new trial based on several legal claims. The Colorado Court of Appeals addressed each claim in its decision that ultimately confirmed his conviction.

The facts of the case date back to May 16, 2010, when Paez arrested a 36-year-old woman, took her to an isolated location, and coerced her into performing a sexual act by threatening to take her to jail. Paez, who was hired in 2006, was working as a patrol officer in District 4 at the time.

The case was prosecuted by Chief Deputy DA Doug Jackson who argued for a prison sentence, citing the impact of this case on the victim as well as abuse of the public trust.