



Orange County News

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District Attorney Hoovler Announces Jail Sentences In Misdemeanor Domestic Violence Case

*Newburgh Man Convicted after Jury Trial of Assault in the Third Degree
and Menacing in the Second Degree*

*Sentenced to a total of 16 Months in Jail for Assaulting and
Menacing Former Girlfriend with a Knife*

Orange County District Attorney David M. Hoovler announced on Thursday, August 10, 2017, Fernando Fonseca-Carrasco, 39, of Newburgh, was sentenced by City of Newburgh Court Judge E. Loren Williams to eight months incarceration in the Orange County Jail for having assaulted his girlfriend on December 9, 2016, and an additional eight months incarceration in the Orange County Jail for having threatened to stab the same woman with a knife on December 20, 2016. The sentences were ordered to run consecutively, meaning that Fonseca-Carrasco was sentenced to serve a total of sixteen months in the Orange County Jail. The court additionally issued a three (3) year Order of Protection on behalf of the victim.

On May 16, 2017, following a three-day trial in the City of Newburgh Court, a jury found Fonseca-Carrasco guilty of Assault in the Third Degree, Menacing in the Second Degree, Attempted Assault in the Third Degree, Attempted Coercion in the Second Degree and Harassment in the Second Degree. At the trial prosecutors argued that on December 9, 2016, Fonseca-Carrasco assaulted his then girlfriend by biting her on the face and punching her in the face numerous times. Prosecutors also argued that the evidence showed that on December 20, 2016, Fonseca-Carrasco threatened to stab her in the head with a knife.

The case was prosecuted as part of the District Attorney's Office's Misdemeanors Matter Program. Under the program an experienced Assistant District Attorney is specifically assigned to handle misdemeanor domestic violence cases in Orange County's Town, Village and City Courts. Training and special emphasis is placed on prosecuting cases without the victims' testimony, a strategy known as "evidence-based prosecution". The goal of the program is to support victims of domestic violence and prosecute offenders before their behavior escalates to the degree where there is more serious injury or loss of life.

District Attorney Hoovler thanked the City of Newburgh Police Department for their efforts in the investigation and prosecution of the case.

District Attorney Hoovler highly commended Assistant District Attorney Luisa Fuentes for her prosecution of the case.

“My office will vigorously prosecute all domestic violence cases, whether they are misdemeanors or felonies,” said District Attorney Hoovler. “My office sought the maximum sentence allowable under the law for this defendant’s actions, and we will continue to do all in our power to vigorously prosecute defendants who engage in violence or threatening behavior against their intimate partners, particularly when they threaten the use of weapons. Victims of these insidious crimes deserve the support of the community, and more importantly they have the right to remain safe. I commend the City of Newburgh Police Department for conducting an investigation that yielded evidence proving the defendant’s guilt beyond a reasonable doubt. I urge all victims of domestic violence to seek help from law enforcement and from agencies such as Safe Homes of Orange County.”



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