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QUEENS MAN PLEADS GUILTY TO SEXUAL CONTACT WITH GIRL;
ABUSE STARTED WHEN VICTIM WAS JUST 6 YEARS OLD

Defendant Faces 19 Years in Prison at Sentencing

Queens District Attorney Melinda Katz announced today that a 64-year-old Queens man has pleaded guilty to course of sexual conduct against a child in the first degree. The victim was just 6 years old when the defendant began sexually abusing the little girl and the abuse continued through October of 2019. The defendant pleaded guilty to a law that was authored in 1996 by then-Assemblywoman Melinda Katz, who wanted to make sure pedophiles were held accountable for committing sex crimes against children.

District Attorney Katz said, “The defendant has now admitted to years of sexual contact with the victim – a little girl who was just 6 years old when this adult man began abusing her. The defendant violated the victim in numerous ways for more than 3 years by touching her genitals with both his mouth and penis and forcing her to perform numerous sex acts on him.”

The District Attorney identified the defendant as Orlando Lopez, 64, of 105th Avenue in Queens. The defendant yesterday pleaded guilty to course of sexual conduct against a child in the first degree before Queens Supreme Court Justice Suzanne Melendez. Sentencing is slated for April 24, 2020, at which time Justice Melendez indicated that she will order Lopez to prison for 19 years, to be followed by 10 years’ post release supervision and will be required to register as a sex offender.

District Attorney Katz said, according to the charges, on September 23, 2014, the defendant first engaged in a sexual act with the victim, who was 6. For more than 3 years, Lopez touched the youngster with his genitals, performed sex acts on her, used various sex toys on the child and forced the girl to touch him, as well. On various occasions, Lopez also photographed the girl without her clothes on and video recorded himself sexually abusing her.

Assistant District Attorney Talia Seidel, of the District Attorney’s Special Victims Bureau, prosecuted the case under the supervision of Assistant District Attorneys Eric C. Rosenbaum, Bureau Chief, Debra Lynn Pomodore, Deputy Bureau Chief, and Alison Andrews, Unit Chief of the Child Advocacy Center, and under the overall supervision of Executive Assistant District Attorney for Major Crimes Daniel A. Saunders.

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Note to Editor: E-version of this press release posted at www.queensda.org