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QUEENS MAN PLEADS GUILTY TO SEX TRAFFICKING TEENAGER AND WEAPONS CHARGES

Defendant Faces Up to 14 Years in Prison at Sentencing

Queens District Attorney Melinda Katz announced that Troy Siddons pleaded guilty to sex trafficking and weapon possession charges for paying a 14-year-old for sex and later coercing her to engage in sex acts with paying customers to pay off a purported debt. The victim was held against her will and denied medical treatment for pain she experienced from the encounters.

District Attorney Melinda Katz said: "Preying on the vulnerabilities of others – particularly children – is atrocious and will not be tolerated in Queens County. Sex trafficking is modern day slavery, and my office is dedicated to bringing abusers to justice and helping survivors recover from the incredible trauma that they have endured. This defendant exploited a teenager to line his own pockets and with this guilty plea, he will be incarcerated for his criminal actions."

Siddons, 41, of 127th Avenue in Jamaica, pleaded guilty yesterday to sex trafficking and criminal possession of a weapon in the third degree before Queens Supreme Court Justice Peter Vallone.

Justice Vallone indicated that he will sentence the defendant to seven to 14 years in prison on the sex trafficking charge and $3\frac{1}{2}$ to seven years on the gun charge, to run concurrently. Sentencing will take place on June 2. Siddons will also be required to register as a sex offender following his release.

District Attorney Katz said that, according to the charges, the defendant met the 14-year-old victim at a party on or about January 16, 2022, and the two exchanged phone numbers. Siddons then met with the girl at the Van Wyck Hotel and paid her for sex. On a second occasion the defendant met with the teen at a Best Western hotel, where he "purchased" the victim, held the girl against her will and told her that she owed him \$300.

The defendant forced the teen victim to engage in sex acts with paying customers. The defendant kept the proceeds from these illicit acts and told the teenager that she needed to pay off her debt.

Siddons arranged for customers for the victim, and his associates collected the cash. The defendant refused to let the victim leave and refused to provide medical care for her when she complained of tremendous pain as a result of the sexual encounters. The victim was rescued by the NYPD on January 23, 2022, from a home in Brooklyn, where she was forced to reside with associates of Siddons.

A court-authorized search warrant executed on Siddons' residence on September 27, 2022, resulted in police finding two loaded and operable firearms, along with a bullet-resistant vest, from the defendant's bedroom.

Assistant District Attorneys Kiran Cheema and Felicia Thomas of the District Attorney's Human Trafficking Bureau prosecuted the case with the assistance of Tara DiGregorio, Deputy Bureau Chief, under the supervision of Assistant District Attorney Jessica Melton, Bureau Chief, and under the overall supervision of Executive Assistant District Attorney for Investigations Gerard A. Brave.

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