



OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY

P.O. Box 1748, Austin, TX 78767

Telephone 512/854-9400

Telefax 512/854-4206

**MARGARET MOORE
DISTRICT ATTORNEY**

**MINDY MONTFORD
FIRST ASSISTANT**

**For Immediate Release
March 14, 2019**

**Contact: Nancy Williams
512/854-9398**

Four Travis County Juries Returned Verdicts This Week

Yesterday, a Travis County jury found Antonio Jamal Negron guilty of Continuous Sexual Abuse of a Young Child and Indecency with a Child by Contact. Today, that jury assessed punishment at 40 years in prison for the Sexual Abuse and 6 years for the Indecency. The victim, who was the defendant's step-daughter, testified that the abuse began when she was eleven years-old and continued, on an almost daily basis, for over three years. She testified that she set out to commit suicide by throwing herself off of a downtown skyscraper, because she knew no other way to end the abuse. When her plans were thwarted, she made an outcry to family and law enforcement. Assistant District Attorney Joe Frederick stated, "Thanks to the bravery of this incredible young woman, other children in this community will be safe."

In another Travis County courtroom today, a different jury returned a 50-year punishment verdict against Jose Morales for the April 2017 shooting death of Mariano Gonzalez-Lopez. Assistant District Attorney Andrea Austin said, "We thank the jury for their strong condemnation of gun violence in Travis County by imposing a 50-year prison sentence for the callous shooting that left one person dead and one severely injured."

On Tuesday, a third jury returned a guilty verdict against Tiffany Wade for the offense of Aggravated Assault. Wade stabbed a 24-year old woman in the back at the ARCH in downtown Austin. The victim stated she did not know Wade at the time of the attack. Wade's punishment will be decided by the Court within the next few weeks.

Earlier this week, another Travis County jury found 26-year old Justin Twyne guilty for the murder of local attorney, James Short. The jury assessed Twyne's punishment at 40 years in prison. Twyne was convicted of stabbing Mr. Short 26-28 times and burning him. Assistant District Attorney Jeremy Sylestine stated in his closing argument, "No one deserves to die this way. No one deserves to have their life stolen from them the way Jim did on April 6, 2017."