



**OFFICE OF THE  
DISTRICT ATTORNEY**

P.O. Box 1748, Austin, TX 78767  
Telephone: 512/854-9400  
Fax: 512/854-4206

**MARGARET MOORE**  
DISTRICT ATTORNEY

**MINDY MONTFORD**  
FIRST ASSISTANT

For Immediate Release  
Friday, July 5, 2019

Contact: Nancy Williams  
512/854-9398

**Man sentenced to 3 years in prison for failing to secure his dogs after attack on  
5-year old boy**

On Monday, July 1, 2019, 45-year old Hector Guzman of Del Valle was sentenced by Judge Julie Kocurek as part of a negotiated plea to 3-years in prison for negligently failing to secure his dogs after an attack on Easter Sunday 2017 that left a 5-year old boy seriously injured.

Travis County Animal Protection and the Travis County Sheriff's Office led the investigation. The three dogs belonging to Guzman attacked and dragged the young victim for several feet by the arm before his mother could intervene. Surgeons at Dell Children's Hospital were able to save the victim's arm, but he will continue to need medical care. The dogs had a history of aggressive behavior in another county, and the investigation revealed that their behavior had escalated prior to moving to Travis County. All three of the dogs were euthanized after this incident.

The State's lead prosecutor who specializes in animal cruelty cases, Jessica Wolfe, stated, "Part of being a responsible dog owner is knowing the risks, if any, your dog poses to the community and taking measures to prevent your dog from harming others. The defendant's disregard of his dogs' escalating behavior led to this preventable situation. The child who was mauled will have obstacles ahead of him relating to this incident, but he is bright, full of energy, and is surrounded by the endless love and support of his family."