



**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

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Contact: Steven Darden
512-854-1759

Former Austin Fire Department Investigator Marcus Reed Officially Sentenced Today

Judge David Wahlberg officially sentenced former Austin Fire Department investigator Marcus Reed to one year in the county jail, a ten-year period of probation and a \$14,000 fine.

Last month, a Travis County jury found Reed guilty of the felony offense of Aggravated Perjury and the misdemeanor offense of Official Oppression. The jury had assessed the maximum jail term of one year on the official oppression charge, as well as a \$4,000 fine. For the felony charge, the jury also gave him the maximum in this case of ten years, but determined that he should receive probation, as well as a \$10,000 fine.

The official oppression case arose from an encounter Reed had in March of 2017 with the victim. After that encounter, which happened when Reed was on duty, he sent her more than thirty text messages, some of an explicitly sexual nature. The aggravated perjury charge was brought after Reed testified before a grand jury about that incident, falsely denying under oath that he had made contact with the victim after their encounter, in fact falsely denying that he had even tried to contact her.

After almost two weeks of trial, the jury announced it was unable to reach a verdict on two other counts of official oppression, and on two counts of sexual assault. Judge Wahlberg declared a mistrial to those charges, and today he set those cases for retrial on May 4, 2020.

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