



**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
January 10, 2020

**Former Austin School Bus Driver Sentenced to 20 Years in Prison
for Indecency with a Child by Contact**

(Austin, TX) Cesar Maldonado, a former bus driver for special needs students at the Austin Independent School District (AISD), was sentenced today to 20 years in prison, the maximum sentence for Indecency with a Child by Contact, a second degree felony.

Last month, the 58-year-old Maldonado plead guilty to inappropriately touching a five-year-old girl several times during the Spring 2018 school year. The little girl told her mother, who then informed the AISD Police Department. Surveillance video captured several incidents of Maldonado abusing the child in the presence of other children. Maldonado confessed to the crimes to an AISD police detective.

Maldonado was formally sentenced today by Judge David Wahlberg in 167th District Court.

“When parents send their young children to school, they should expect and demand that their children be kept safe. When there is a threat to the safety of one of our most vulnerable populations, our office will hold those perpetrators accountable,” says Travis County Assistant District Attorney Jessica Wolfe with the Child Abuse Special Victims Unit.

The case was tried by Wolfe and Assistant District Attorney Coulter Goodman.

Media contact: Ron Oliveira at ron.oliveira@traviscountytexas.gov

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