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PRESS RELEASE

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GONZALES CONVICTED OF 5 COUNTS OF PREDATORY CRIMINAL SEXUAL ASSAULT OF A CHILD AFTER 4-DAY JURY TRIAL

Kendall County State's Attorney Eric Weis announced that Luis Gonzales (dob: 04/27/71, 541 Hemmingsen Street) of Plano, Illinois, was found guilty of five (5) counts of Predatory Criminal Sexual Assault of a Child after a four-day jury trial that concluded last week. Gonzalez was immediately taken into custody by Judge Jody Gleason where he will await sentencing later in August of this year. Gonzales had been out on bond since his arrest on these charges.

Charges against Gonzalez were filed after an investigation began in October of 2019, when two separate victims, both of which were family members of Gonzalez, disclosed to family and then to investigators that Gonzalez had committed multiple horrific sexual acts upon each of them starting as early as 5 years of age. Each victim was under the age of 13 when sexual assaults occurred to each of them. Each victim also completed a victim sensitive interview at the Tazewell County Child Advocacy Center as well as one interview at the Kendall County Child Advocacy Center. Under Illinois law, the two interviews of the youngest victim were played during the trial as evidence against Gonzalez. Additionally, both victims took the stand and described the sexual assault that Gonzalez, the step grandfather of both victims, committed on each of them while in the home in Plano where they stayed during summer visits. These sex acts included digital, vaginal, and anal penetration of the children by Gonzalez.

Weis thanked the jury for its attention and careful consideration of the evidence presented during the trial and applying it to the law in this case. Weis praised the hard work of the Plano Police Department, the Kendall County Child Advocacy Center, the Tazewell County Child Advocacy Center, and the Department of Children and Family Services. Finally, Weis stated that the courage of two children had to come forward, face their abuser in open court and testify about these horrific acts of sexual assault and abuse allowed for justice to be served for the youngest victim. The second trial involving the second victim will be scheduled after the sentencing hearing.

The case was successfully prosecuted by States's Attorney Eric Weis and Assistant State's Attorney Jennifer Cusack. Gonzalez was represented by Attorney Chris Rouskey.