



Office of the Attorney General of Guam

590 S. Marine Corps Dr., Ste. 706, Tamuning, Guam 96913



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Borja Convicted of Misdemeanor Family Violence Charges

April 08, 2015- Tamuning, Guam- After a Superior Court Jury deliberated for just an hour and a half this past Monday, Adam Santos Borja was convicted of two counts of family violence as a misdemeanor for repeatedly striking the mother of his 2 month-old newborn in February. Borja was, however, acquitted of one count of child abuse as a misdemeanor.

On two separate occasions, Borja accused his girlfriend of cheating on him and physically harmed her, with the baby in her arms. After the first incident, the victim reported that the infant stopped breathing for a short period of time and was taken to the Guam Memorial Hospital for further treatment and assessment. A witness who was interviewed by police said Borja jumped on the victim, causing her to fall onto the bed, and then took the newborn from her. She further stated that the newborn's head struck the metal frame of the bassinet repeatedly while Borja struggled with the victim.

Prior to the trial, the victim requested that the prosecution of the defendant cease. While on the witness stand during trial, the victim refused to answer questions presented by the prosecuting attorney.

"It is not uncommon that family violence and domestic abuse cases are complicated by the victim's change of heart, recanting, or refusal to cooperate, but we all must do our part to stop and prevent it by holding the abuser and perpetrator accountable for his or her actions. The sentencing in such cases often includes the requirement that the defendant must undergo counseling and treatment with the hope that it will not be repeated against the family members," said Assistant Attorney General Richelle Y. Canto.

"There can be no meaningful reunification of families if the abuser does not accept responsibility for his or her actions and make efforts to rectify these through successful treatment," she continued.

Borja's sentencing hearing is scheduled for May 15, 2015 where he faces a maximum term of 2 years' incarceration at the Department of Corrections.

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