

Man who kidnapped and raped 7-year-old girl sentenced to 40 years



Fernando Miranda

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SAN ANTONIO - A man who kidnapped, beat and sexually assaulted a 7-year-old girl is going to prison. Fernando Miranda, 25, was sentenced to 40 years in prison Tuesday after pleading no contest.

Miranda, who is an undocumented immigrant, abducted the girl back in 2010 while she was playing outside of her apartment with friends. Officers found the girl three hours later with Miranda inside a vacant apartment.

Meanwhile, the victim and her family won \$544,000 in a civil lawsuit against the Hacienda Apartments where the attack happened. The jury found the complex was negligent and violated the city code of ordinance by leaving a vacant apartment unlocked.

The family's attorney, Lawrence Morales II, said, "The rules are clear that you have to lock your vacant apartments and make sure they stay locked and in this case Hacienda Apartments did not."

Morales said the compensation was awarded for mental anguish and to be used for psychiatric treatment for the child.

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