



OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY
TWENTIETH JUDICIAL DISTRICT

Michael T. Dougherty, District Attorney

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Press Release – Joshua Escandon Sentenced

Joshua Escandon was sentenced to fourteen (14) years in state prison today, after pleading guilty to criminal attempt to commit assault in the first degree along with several other felonies and misdemeanors in numerous criminal cases. The assault charge arose from an incident that took place on October 4, 2019, in a residential neighborhood in Longmont where the defendant drove his vehicle in reverse at high speeds past crowds of elementary school children, parents and teachers as school was letting out for the day.

At the time, police were investigating a stolen vehicle parked in front of Mr. Escandon's sister's house on Tulane Court and attempting to take Mr. Escandon into custody on multiple felony warrants. Mr. Escandon's sister's house is one block away from Longmont Estates Elementary School. The Longmont Police Department and the Boulder County Sheriff's Office announced their presence several times when they observed the Defendant attempting to crawl out a bedroom window. He crawled back into the house when he saw that police were surrounding the home. The defendant eventually came out the front door appearing as if he was going to surrender. He then ran towards his sister's SUV parked in the driveway. The defendant immediately threw the vehicle into reverse and accelerated onto Tulane Court, narrowly missing several officers on foot and in patrol cars.

The Defendant continued recklessly driving in reverse at very high speeds. The area was full of elementary school children trying to cross Northwestern Road. The defendant rammed his vehicle into the patrol car of a Longmont Officer before turning onto Drake Street. Within minutes, members of the Longmont Police and the Sheriff's Office were able to block the defendant on three sides with their vehicles. Deputy Jeff Black, a 15-year veteran of the Sheriff's Office, anticipated that the Defendant was going to reverse his vehicle in an attempt to escape. Deputy Black noticed that there were several children in the defendant's reverse path. Deputy Black made the decision to quickly move his patrol vehicle into the defendant's reverse path to stop the defendant's speeding truck before it hit the children. The Defendant slammed into Deputy Black, totaling Black's patrol SUV, before being placed under arrest. (See attached picture).

Senior Deputy District Attorney Anne Kelly stated, “Deputy Black and all of the extremely brave and dedicated members of the Longmont Police Department and the Boulder County Sheriff’s Office on scene put their lives at risk to protect our children and other community members that day and apprehend a dangerous individual. I am honored to work with these men and women. The sentence today reflects the danger that our law enforcement officers and the community faced as a result of Mr. Escandon’s actions. Boulder County is very fortunate to have such outstanding men and women protecting the community.”

District Attorney Michael Dougherty stated, “But for the courage and selfless acts of Deputy Black and the other outstanding members of law enforcement, this defendant’s conduct could have had tragic consequences for officers and residents. The heroic actions of law enforcement prevented community members from being hurt or killed by this defendant. The lengthy prison sentence imposed by the judge accurately reflects the egregious nature of the defendant’s conduct and the danger he poses to our community.”

