

# Shakopee man sentenced in sexual assault

March 15, 2011

Carver County Attorney Mark Metz announced the sentencing of a 21-year-old Shakopee man for sexual assault.

According to a press release, Oscar Audriel Garcia-Lopez was sentenced to 41 months in prison for the sexual assault of a 16-year-old minor. The sentencing hearing occurred on March 4 and was presided over by Judge Richard C. Perkins.

The victim and Garcia-Lopez worked together in Chaska where the Garcia-Lopez was the victim's supervisor. On September 4, 2010, while working together, Garcia-Lopez blocked the victim into a small office. He then forced the victim to perform oral sex on him, the release stated.

This case was prosecuted by Chief Deputy County Attorney Michael Wentzell. Wentzell credits the expert investigation conducted by Detective Lee McClure of the Chaska Police Department and Detective Bill Hughes of the Carver County Sheriff's Office.

McClure learned through his investigation that Garcia-Lopez video recorded the sexual assault on his cell phone. McClure located the cell phone and obtained a search warrant to search the cell phone.

Hughes, an expert on computer forensic examination, conducted a forensic examination on the Garcia-Lopez's cell phone, located the video, and preserved it for presentation in court.

"But for the tremendous investigation of Detectives McClure and Hughes, this would have been a very difficult case to successfully prosecute. This result is directly due to the expertise of these two skilled investigators," stated Wentzell.

After hearing arguments from the state and the defense, Judge Perkins committed Garcia-Lopez to the Commissioner of Corrections for a period of 41 months, which is consistent with the Minnesota Sentencing Guidelines. Judge Perkins also ordered that Garcia-Lopez is subject to a 10-year conditional release period following his release from prison, which means he can be ordered back to prison for up to 10 additional years if he violates any of the terms of his parole.