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PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Date: February 9th, 2016
Contact: Kimberly Corban • kweeks@co.weld.co.us • 970.356.4010 ext. 4702
Re: Man Sentenced to 20 Years DOC for Biting off Girlfriend's Eyelid

Greeley, CO – On Monday, February 8th, Jose Leyva-Estrada, (DOB) who also goes by Erik Torres, Isak Lujan, and Carlos, was sentenced by the Honorable Senior Judge Jane Tidball for strangling his girlfriend and then permanently disfiguring her by biting her eyelid off. Layva-Estrada was sentenced to 13 years in the Department of Corrections for First Degree Assault (F3) and 7 years in the Department of Corrections for Second Degree Assault (F4). The sentences run consecutively, making it a total of 20 years in the Colorado Department of Corrections.

Though Leyva-Estrada had no known criminal history, the Judge did take evidence and argument made by Weld County Deputy District Attorney Brynne Gant of prior criminal conduct that was either uncharged or unconfirmed on account of his several different identities. That information included allegations that he had previously been violent with the victim in this case, and that he had attempted homicide on his previous girlfriend from Utah.

Following the Layva-Estrada's sentence, Weld County District Attorney Michael J. Rourke stated "Domestic violence crimes are far more prevalent than many realize, so when a victim is able to step forward and give us the ability to prosecute these abusers, we do so knowing we are not only protecting that specific victim, but future victims as well".

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