



Char Jackson, Public Information Officer

[Cjackson@cityofcaldwell.org](mailto:Cjackson@cityofcaldwell.org)

Phone: (208) 455-4524

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## CALDWELL POLICE DEPARTMENT PRESS RELEASE

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Today, a Canyon County Jury found Freddy Salinas Martinez guilty of lewd and lascivious conduct with a minor under 16.

The incident occurred on August 23, 2021, when Martinez (39-years-old at the time) had sexual contact with a minor at an apartment in Caldwell. The minor locked herself in the bathroom after the incident and called 911. Caldwell Police responded and directed her out of the apartment to safety. Martinez was detained and questioned, but released pending further investigation. After a yearlong investigation, Martinez was indicted by a grand jury and a trial date was set for January 3.

The jury deliberated for about four hours before finding Martinez guilty. His sentencing is set for March 28, at 10 a.m., in Canyon County. Martinez is facing up to a life sentence for this crime.

We want to commend the minor in this case, she is a survivor, and we are proud of her actions in this case.

Protecting the wellbeing of children in the community is a top priority for CPD, here are a few reminders for parents/guardians to review with children in their care:

1. Describe to your child what a stranger is, and talk with them about what to do if approached by a stranger. Make your child aware of the enticements used to lure children.
2. If unwanted contact occurs, even with someone known to your child, remind them they have the right to say "NO, GET AWAY", and tell a trusted adult.

“Today, Justice was served in Canyon County. A jury of Martinez’ peers found him guilty of this atrocious crime against a child. Hopefully, he will feel the same pain and suffering that his victim felt when he spends the rest of his life in an Idaho prison. This should stand as an example for all, that our community is stronger than ever and gives us confidence that if you decide to prey on people in our city, county or state, you will face your destiny,” said Rex Ingram, Caldwell Chief of Police.