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EIGHTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT  
SHELBY COUNTY

08/22/2023

(COLUMBIANA) –Amancio Betancourt Martinez of Alabaster, AL, entered a plea to Rape 1<sup>st</sup> degree on Tuesday morning. Martinez received a 40-year prison sentence for the offense, which is not eligible for correctional incentive time, also known as “good time”. The trial of the case commenced on Monday, but before resuming on Tuesday the Defendant requested to change his plea to guilty. After consulting with the victim, the State agreed to the terms of the plea.

“We are very thankful for the courage that our victim showed in coming forward and facing her assailant,” said District Attorney Matt Casey. “This plea was one that our victim felt was appropriate and ensures that Mr. Martinez will serve a lengthy prison sentence and will then be a registered sex offender for the remainder of his life. I’m hopeful that this will bring closure to a difficult chapter in the life of our victim,” added Casey.

The case was prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney’s Matthew Kimbrough and Sarah Beth Eldridge. It was initially investigated by Alabaster Police Department with the assistance of Owen’s House Child Advocacy Center of Shelby County.