



Abilene Police Department

News Release

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Charges Dropped Against Man Accused of Kidnapping

ABILENE, TX – Abilene Police arrested Joe Raymond Rodriguez on December 20, 2019, on an Aggravated Kidnapping arrest warrant involving an alleged abduction and sexual assault on the north side of Abilene last summer. The arrest warrant was issued by a district judge based on probable cause developed during the Department's investigation. Evidence collected included DNA identifying Rodriguez as the suspect. As investigators continued their investigation, they learned the victim had been deceptive about the relationship she had with Mr. Rodriguez, wherein she failed to disclose facts vital to the case. Charges against Joe Raymond Rodriguez have been dropped by the Taylor County District Attorney's Office and Rodriguez was released from custody. Although the victim was deceptive about her relationship with Rodriguez, detectives will still investigate her allegations of an abduction and sexual assault. Consequently, at this time charges will not be filed against her for filing a false report. She has not rescinded her allegations, but Rodriguez has been cleared of these criminal charges.

Respectfully,

Rick Tomlin

Public Information Coordinator

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"You are the first line of defense against crime"

Stan Standridge, Chief of Police | 4565 South First | Abilene, TX | 79605

"We work together to build and maintain a community of the highest quality for present and future generations"