



Kevin Petroff
First Assistant

Johnny Freeze
Chief Investigator

**Zonia Wiltturner-
Smith**
Chief Executive
Officer

Contact:

Galveston County
Justice Center
600 59th Street
Suite 1001
Galveston, Texas
(409)766-2355
(409)766-2290 (fax)

Press Release

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Jury Sentences Man to 10 Years Probation for Possession of Child Pornography

GALVESTON – Today, Johnny Mario Zepeda, 37, was sentenced to 10 years probation with a \$10,000 fine for two charges of possession of child pornography following a three day jury trial.

Zepeda's arrest in January 2015 and subsequent indictment resulted from an ongoing investigation that began in March and ended in December 2014. Zepeda was identified as a suspect in the investigation conducted by the Houston Metro Internet Crimes Against Children Taskforce.

Yesterday afternoon, the jury found Zepeda guilty on both charges. Zepeda faced a punishment range of two to 10 years in prison. During punishment, the jury learned that he had no prior felony convictions and was eligible for probation. After deliberating on punishment, the jury returned with a 10 year probation sentence and a \$10,000 fine for each case. At sentencing, the court added 30 days in the county jail as a condition of Zepeda's probation.

Zepeda was prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Adam Poole in the 56th District Court, with Judge Lonnie Cox presiding.