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Man Sentenced for Patronizing a Person for Prostitution



ALBANY, NY - District Attorney P. David Soares announced today that RUSSELL BLAIR, 33, of West Sand Lake, NY, was sentenced to 2 years in State Prison, before the Honorable Roger D. McDonough in Albany County Court this morning after a jury previously found him guilty of arranging acts of sexual conduct with persons who he believed to be a nineteen and a fourteen year old girl.

Upon release from State Prison BLAIR will have to register as a sexual offender.

On April 4, 2019, BLAIR was found guilty after a jury trial of (1) Count of Patronizing a Person for Prostitution in the Second Degree, a Class E Felony.

After thorough deliberation and review of the evidence presented during the trial, the jury found that on December 2, 2017, in the Town of Colonie, BLAIR responded to a Craig's List Ad and engaged in a telephone conversation with a person he believed to be a nineteen year old girl and agreed to pay a fee of \$200.00 to engage in sexual conduct with her and a fourteen year old girl. The person on the other end of the telephone conversation was a member of law enforcement.

Assistant District Attorney Ariel Fallon and Executive Assistant District Attorney Jennifer McCanney of the Special Victims Unit handled the prosecution of this case.

For more information please contact Cecilia Walsh at (518) 275-4710 or cecilia.walsh@albanycountyny.gov

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