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NEWS RELEASE
SEPTEMBER 18, 2017

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**SHREWSBURY MAN SENTENCED TO SERVE 20-22 YEARS IN STATE
PRISON AFTER AGGRAVATED RAPE TRIAL**

BROCKTON – A Shrewsbury man has been sentenced to serve 20-22 years in State Prison after a jury found him guilty of aggravated rape and an array of other charges, Plymouth County District Attorney Timothy J. Cruz has announced.

After a five-day trial in Plymouth Superior Court, a jury deliberated seven hours before convicting Fernando DaSilva (DOB: 02/21/72) early Friday afternoon. DaSilva was convicted of a total of 17 counts, including: four counts each of Aggravated Rape of a Child and Rape of a Child with Force, six counts of Indecent Assault and Battery of a Child, 14 years or Younger, Dissemination of Visual Material of a Child in a State of Nudity or Sexual Conduct, Intimidation of a Witness and one count of Posing or Exhibiting a Child in a State of Nudity. Judge Jeffrey Locke sentenced DaSilva to serve 20-22 years in State Prison.

In March, 2015, Plymouth Police were contacted regarding disclosure from a 13-year-old female that DaSilva had repeatedly sexually assaulted and raped her on diverse dates from 2006-2011. The victim also reported to police that DaSilva took nude pictures of her and showed her child pornography.

Plymouth Police contacted the District Attorney's Office and our Child Advocacy Center and an investigation ensued. DaSilva was indicted on the charges on April 17, 2015.

"Over a number of years, Mr. DaSilva violated this child and stole her innocence," DA Cruz said. "I am hopeful that this verdict and lengthy State Prison sentence can help this young victim turn the page and move forward, stronger than before."

Assistant District Attorney Jeremy Beth Kusmin prosecuted the case, which was investigated by the Plymouth Police Department.

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