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Abigail Kim receives 100 month prison sentence after jury unanimously convicted her of rape, other sex crimes

Today, Multnomah County District Attorney Rod Underhill announced that 29-year-old Abigail Kim, a registered behavioral technician, received a 100 month prison sentence after being found guilty of raping her 13 year old autistic male client.

“Ms. Kim destroyed our trust and stole our son’s innocence,” the victim’s parents said in an impact statement presented to the court during today’s sentencing. “Her actions have impacted our whole family in innumerable ways. ... Our family has been affected both emotionally and mentally. We can never get back the time lost nor remove the negative memories this incident has placed on our son.”

On March 4, 2019, a 12-person jury unanimously convicted Kim of one count of rape in the second degree, one count of sodomy in the second degree and six counts of sexual abuse in the first degree.

“Abigail Kim was convicted of eight felony sexually offenses against a child who was under the age of 14 when he was abused,” said Multnomah County Deputy District Attorney Melissa Marrero, who prosecuted this case. “Abigail Kim not only knew of the victim’s age and disability, she was in a position of trust and authority over him. She had a professional responsibility that she violated by abusing him.”

During the 10-day trial, the state presented evidence that proved the victim was a 13 year old autistic male when Kim sexually assaulted him in the fall of 2017. Kim was employed as a registered behavioral technician and worked for a company that provided behavioral therapy to autistic children. The victim in this case was her client.

“This case is aggravated by the fact that when Abigail Kim was removed from the case, she attempted to shift the blame to the victim in an effort to protect herself,” DDA Marrero said.

Evidence presented at trial showed Kim previously obtained a master’s degree in teaching with a specialization in Applied Behavioral Analysis. Over the course of months, Kim developed a relationship with the victim, which resulted in significant sexual contact. The jury was instructed that they could not find Kim guilty of any crime unless they found her to be a willing participant in the sexual conduct.

As a treatment provider, Kim was a mandatory reporter of child abuse and had ethical obligations prohibiting sexual conduct with a client.

A presentence investigation report, which was authored by Multnomah County’s Department of Community Justice, recommended a sentence of 150 months in prison for Kim. As outlined in its sentencing recommendation, the state asked the court to sentence Kim to 200 months in prison.

Upon the conclusion of today’s sentencing hearing, Kim was taken into custody by the Multnomah County Sheriff’s Office.

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