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**RODRIGUEZ-CARMONA CONVICTED OF ARMED BURGLARY,
FALSE IMPRISONMENT, FOUR COUNTS OF SEXUAL BATTERY**

State Attorney Melissa Nelson announces that Joel Rodriguez-Carmona, 43, of Jacksonville, was found guilty by a jury of Armed Burglary, False Imprisonment, and four counts of Sexual Battery. Rodriguez-Carmona now faces a maximum of Life in Florida State Prison. A sentencing hearing is scheduled before the Honorable James H. Daniel on Oct. 15, 2018.

On Oct. 23, 2016, Rodriguez-Carmona broke into the apartment of an ex-girlfriend while armed with a knife. He then held the victim there against her will, threatened to kill her, and sexually battered her. After the final sexual battery, the victim took an opportunity to escape while Rodriguez-Carmona was distracted — she jumped off her second-story balcony, breaking her wrist and ankle, to flee. Rodriguez-Carmona was arrested two days later.

The case was investigated by Jacksonville Sheriff's Office and is being prosecuted by Assistant State Attorneys Ashley Nicole Young and Alex Weaver.