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**SEXUAL VIOLENT OFFENDER IS SENTENCED IN VALLEJO**

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Release Date: July 20, 2021

During the summer of 2018, Survivor S and Survivor P (minor) had their lives turned upside down having experienced the unthinkable. Today, in Department 15 of the Solano County Superior Court, before the Honorable Robert S. Bowers, their perpetrator Defendant Kenneth Weathersby Jr. was sentenced to the crimes he committed against them.

On July 16, 2018, Defendant Weathersby kidnapped Victim S at gun point while she was walking in the city of Vallejo. The defendant, who was a stranger to the victim, ordered her into his car, and drove around for several hours. During that time, the defendant committed acts of forcible oral copulation and rape upon the victim.

Two weeks later, on July 30, 2018, Defendant Weathersby kidnapped Victim P, a minor, at gunpoint in Vallejo. Defendant Weathersby Jr. ordered her into his vehicle. He proceeded to drive around for hours. During this period of time, the victim was held at gun point while being raped and forced to perform several acts of oral copulation. Eventually, the minor victim was able to escape from the vehicle while stopped at a red light and run for help. The minor victim was able to provide identifying information about her attacker to Vallejo Police Department which helped them solve the case. The defendant was positively identified by both victims.

Both of these women displayed a tremendous amount of resourcefulness, bravery, and courage not only throughout this horrific ordeal but also throughout the trial which began on February 24, 2020. Despite the overwhelming amount of fear, anxiety, and stress in going to trial, both women courageously testified. On March 18, 2020, Solano County issued a Shelter in Home order due to the Covid-19 pandemic, and the Judge abruptly halted the trial. On May 20, 2020, the trial resumed, and after hearing closing arguments the jury convicted Defendant Kenneth Weathersby Jr. of the following charges: Count 1: Kidnapping to Commit Rape (Victim P); Count 2: Forcible Rape (Victim P); COUNT 3: Forcible Oral Copulation of a Minor Victim over 14 years (Victim P); Count 4: Forcible Oral Copulation of Minor over 14 years (Victim P); Count 5: Forcible Oral Copulation of Minor over 14 years (Victim P); Count 6: Criminal Threats (Victim P); Count 7: Kidnapping to Commit Rape (Victim S); Count 8: Forcible Oral Copulation (Victim S); Count 9: Forcible Oral Copulation (Victim S); and Count 10: Forcible Rape (Victim S). The jury also made a TRUE finding that the defendant personally used a firearm during the commission of the crimes pursuant to Penal Code Section 12022.53(b).

Defendant Kenneth Weathersby Jr. was sentenced to the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation for a term of life without the possibility of parole for the crimes he committed against the minor victim. He was sentenced to a consecutive term of 150 years to life for the crimes committed against the adult victim. Additionally, he was sentenced to a determinate term of 26 years.

Detective Josh Caitham of the Vallejo Police Department was the primary investigating officer. Victim Witness Advocate Shamar Lewis provided victim advocacy. The case was prosecuted by Senior Deputy District Attorney Shelly Moore.