



OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY
TWENTIETH JUDICIAL DISTRICT

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**Press Release – Zachary Roper
sentenced in Sex Assault Case**

Zachary Roper was sentenced today to four (4) years to life in the Department of Corrections, followed by twenty (20) years to life parole.

While attending an event, leaders in the sorority became concerned that the victim was too intoxicated and should return home. They called an Uber to safely return her and her date, defendant Zachary Roper, back to the sorority house. While in the Uber to the sorority house, the victim passed out due to her intoxication. Mr. Roper took advantage of the situation and switched the Uber destination from the sorority house to his apartment without the victim's approval. When they arrived at his apartment, the victim was unable to get out of the vehicle or walk on her own. The Uber driver and Mr. Roper assisted her out of the car. Mr. Roper physically assisted her into his apartment where he then sexually assaulted her. After the victim and Mr. Roper did not arrive at the sorority house as expected, the victim's friends and a friend of Mr. Roper became concerned and went to his apartment, where they walked in on the victim passed out and Mr. Roper sexually assaulting her.

The victim participated in a Sexual Assault Nurse Exam and reported the sexual assault to the Boulder Police Department.

The case proceeded to trial in October 2020. After a five-day trial the jury returned unanimous guilty verdicts convicting Mr. Roper on two counts of Sexual Assault. One count of sexual assault on a victim incapable of appraising the nature of conduct and one count of sexual assault on a victim who is physically helpless.

Senior Deputy District Attorney Laura Kinde stated, "We want to acknowledge and thank the survivor for reporting to law enforcement and continuing to trust our team while the case endured difficult delays due to the pandemic. The Boulder Police Department did a remarkable job with this investigation. The jurors in this case selflessly served during a global pandemic and did so without hesitation."

District Attorney Michael Dougherty stated, “The survivor of this sexual assault took the difficult and courageous step of reporting it to the police. At times, victims of sex offenses are reluctant to come forward and report the assault. As a result of this survivor’s decision to come forward, our office was able to secure justice for her and for our community. The Boulder Police Department and our prosecution team, led by Senior Deputy DA Laura Kinde, did an outstanding job on this case.”