



3/5/26

ALLIANCE FOR SAFE COMMUNITIES' DENIAL PAROLE LETTER JOSE RIVERA...

Without a doubt Jose Rivera committed the most heinous crimes against a vulnerable victim imaginable. Rivera was trusted with oversight and protection against the very individuals that became his victims. Rivera behaved like a predator and had easy access to the three developmentally and physically challenged females he assaulted.

“This case is often cited in Rhode Island legal contexts for its treatment of sexual assault against developmentally disabled individuals and the courts’ approach to sentencings and appeals in such serious offenses.”

Jose Rivera was convicted of the charges for 2xcounts 1st degree sexual assault, 4x counts 2nd degree sexual assault, 1x count simple assault. The victims were 3 developmentally and physically disabled females aged 37, 22, and 39.

Mr. Rivera received a life sentence for 1st degree sexual assault concurrent with 15-year terms for 2nd degree sexual assault counts involving the second victim, to run consecutively to the first victim’s sentences.

The jury found Rivera guilty on all counts related to the first 2 victims and guilty of the lesser included offense of simple assault for the third victim.

Jose Rivera was a driver for Rhode Island Public Transit Authority. He was assigned to the RIDE transport unit for individuals with developmental disabilities to the Adeline La Plante Memorial Center.

June 2005 Jose Rivera sexually assaulted 2 female passengers and physically assaulted a third. Assaults included unconsented touching of the victim’s breasts and genital areas, an one instance of simple assault on another woman.

He blamed victims and accused them of incompetence when in fact their competence was confirmed at trial. He blamed the court for not outsourcing competency testing of the victims, when in fact his defense had agreed the court, itself was able to administer the competency testing and did not request further.

He demonstrated no remorse or responsibility for his actions.

The sentence for Rivera's crimes is appropriate to the heinousness of his crimes. There should not be an opportunity for Rivera to be released into society and resume his life among others with his propensity to commit such evil acts and lack of remorse.

The lives of those young women were certainly changed forever and not in a beneficial way. As if life had not dealt with them in less than favorable circumstances, what they encountered with Rivera's actions complicated, and hurt them even more.

Mr. Rivera is exactly where he belongs and society is much safer, that he remains incarcerated.

Alliance for Safe Communities requests that Jose Rivera's parole be denied at this time and in the future.

Respectfully submitted,

Carolyn Medeiros, Executive Director Alliance for Safe Communities