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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Former Jail Corrections Officer Sentenced to Prison
State v. Franco Vilella, 2018-CR-4699

DAYTON, OH (08/20/2020) – Prosecuting Attorney Mat Heck, Jr. announced today that **FRANCO R. VILLELLA**, 24, of Troy, was sentenced to five years in prison after being convicted of sexually assaulting two female inmates in the Montgomery County Jail.

On December 21, 2018, the defendant was indicted for two counts of Sexual Battery for an incident that occurred on Tuesday, December 11, 2018. The defendant was on duty and working as a Corrections Officer at the Montgomery County Jail. The defendant took the victim, who was an inmate being held in the jail, down a hallway to a restroom, and forced her to submit to sexual conduct.

After news of that indictment became public, a second victim came forward and reported that the defendant has forced her to submit to sexual conduct as well. Further investigation determined that these newly reported incidents had occurred before the previously indicted incident. On April 10, 2019, the defendant was indicted for four additional counts of Sexual Battery.

On July 13, 2020, the defendant was found guilty as charged on all six counts.

Today, the defendant was sentenced to a total of five years in prison. Additionally, the defendant was designated a Tier III sex offender, which requires the defendant to register his address with the Sheriff's Office in person every 90 days for the rest of his life.

Prosecutor Heck continued, "Incarcerated inmates, whether in a jail or a prison, have the right to be safe, especially from the corrections staff. This defendant took advantage of his position and authority as a Corrections Officer and sexually assaulted the victims."

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