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Commonwealth v. Teodoro Tabara Lumaban Jr.
Man to Serve 15 Years for Sexual Abuse of Child

Colin D. Stolle, Commonwealth's Attorney for the city of Virginia Beach, announced that Teodoro Tabara Lumaban Jr., age 55, was sentenced today for Aggravated Sexual Battery and Custodial Indecent Liberties. Circuit Court Judge A. Bonwill Shockley sentenced Lumaban to twenty (20) years in prison with five (5) years suspended, leaving fifteen (15) years to serve. This sentence was approximately three (3) times greater than the high-end of the Virginia State Sentencing Guidelines, which recommended a sentence of no more than five (5) years and seven (7) months.

Lumaban pled guilty on May 6, 2019. Had this matter gone to trial, the Commonwealth's evidence would have proven that in November 2011, a young child began to exhibit strange behavior during bathtime. This behavior was observed by a family member. The child described the behavior as replicating acts that had been done to the child by Teodoro Lumaban Jr., who was known to the child. Police were not notified at this time.

Several years later, the child began to show an inappropriate interest in pornography. The child told a family member that it reminded the child of former abuse inflicted upon the child by Lumaban. Police were notified and began an investigation into Lumaban. The child provided a detailed forensic interview of the abuse. Detectives called Lumaban, and he agreed to meet with them on October 18, 2013, but he did not show up for the meeting. On October 20, 2013, Lumaban sent a resignation email to his employer. On October 21, 2013, his wife filed a missing person's report with the Virginia Beach Police Department. This report was quickly closed after detectives spoke with Department of Homeland Security investigators at the Norfolk airport. They learned that Lumaban left the United States to Ethiopia from Washington D.C. sometime between October 16 and October 20, 2013.

In June 2017, Lumaban was discovered in the Philippines while attempting to renew his passport. He was extradited back to the United States for prosecution.