



CAMERON COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY

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Santa Rosa Educators Arrested for Alleged Inappropriate Relationship with Students

Brownsville, TX.—May 14, 2019—The Cameron County District Attorney’s Office has made arrests in cases that originate out of Santa Rosa ISD. Today, investigators from the CCDA Special Investigations Unit and Homeland Security Investigation’s Child Exploitation Task Force arrested Josue Cepeda, 35, and Isaac Flores, 24, who served as educators and coaches in the Santa Rosa School District. Back in May of 2018, allegations of inappropriate relationships with students were first reported to school district officials. No action was taken by school district officials at the time, and law enforcement was not notified. In February of 2019, HSI Child Exploitation Task Force agents received phone tips regarding the same alleged relationships. This prompted the beginning of a joint, and lengthy, investigation between the agencies that has resulted in several charges against the men. Josue Arnaldo Cepeda is charged with one count of Improper Relationship, and six counts of Sexual Assault, all second degree felonies. Isaac Ruben Flores, 24, is charged with one count of Improper Relationship, two counts of Sexual Assault, and four counts of Delivery of a Controlled Substance or Marijuana. Each charge is a second degree felony carrying a potential for 2-20 years in state prison. Cepeda and Flores have been arraigned by Magistrate Judge Louis Sorola and each given a \$525,000 bond, \$75,000 per count. The two remain in custody as of this afternoon. The investigation continues, but future arrests are still possible. Cameron County Constable Precinct 5 also assisted in the arrests.

Cameron County Administration

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