



Maricopa County Attorney

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NEWS RELEASE

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Aaron Baka Lopez Sentenced to 115 Years for Shooting PPD Officer

Defendant Aaron Baka Lopez (DOB 12/16/72) was sentenced today to 115 years in prison in connection with the shooting of a Phoenix Police Officer. On June 28, 2008, Officer Jennifer Moore encountered the defendant during a routine traffic stop which ended with a struggle between Officer Moore and the defendant. The defendant shot Officer Moore in the chest and, as she defensively shielded herself with her hands, the bullet from Lopez's gun severed her right ring finger.

The defendant then fled to a nearby apartment complex where he held a father and son at gunpoint and hid in their apartment. The father and son were able to escape safely and, after a brief standoff with police, Lopez was taken into custody.

Maricopa County Attorney Rick Romley stated, "The men and women who put their lives on the line every single day to protect our community should know that our community will deliver justice when officers themselves become victims of crime in the line of duty. This sentence will assure that Mr. Lopez will never have the chance to harm one of our own again, and should send a strong message to others about the consequences of committing violence against police officers."

The case was prosecuted by Deputy County Attorney Vince Goddard.