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# Dallas jail instructor gets 10 years for molesting youths in custody

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By JENNIFER EMILY / The Dallas Morning News  
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An instructor who taught juveniles at the Dallas County jail was sentenced this morning to 10 years in prison for molesting youths in his classes.

The sentence was handed down by State District Judge Gracie Lewis shortly after a jury found Luis Enrique [Santos](#) guilty of two counts of sexual assault of a child.

The judge sentenced de los Santos to 10 years on each count, with the sentences to run concurrently.

De Los Santos, who testified in his own defense, claimed he was innocent and that his accusers were liars.

When the guilty verdicts were read, he shook his head.

Jurors returned to the court after finishing their deliberations so they could watch the judge sentence de los Santos. The jurors declined to comment afterward.

During closing arguments Wednesday, prosecutor James Bagnall showed jurors a Kit Kat bar, a 20-ounce Coca-Cola and a [McDonald's](#) bag.

He said the items were representative of the gifts de los Santos used to lure incarcerated boys into sex. The prosecutor said de los Santos developed "a sexual molester relationship" with the youths, who were 14 to 16.

Calvin Johnson, de los Santos' attorney, said in his closing argument that the youths accusing his client were "not regular kids" and could not be trusted. The youths were in jail after being ordered to stand trial as adults for crimes including aggravated assault of a police officer and capital murder.

Testifying in his own defense Wednesday, de los Santos said of his accusers, "They lied about everything."

He was accused of performing oral sex on at least two boys in a jail bathroom near the classroom in 2008.

Prosecutors said de los Santos, an instructor who worked for the [Dallas Independent School District](#), wrote sexually explicit notes to students and promised them marijuana and pornographic photos.

De los Santos testified that he used bad judgment in writing the notes. In bringing them candy and other foods from the outside world, he said, he was trying to reward the students.

Two youths testified that de los Santos threatened to influence their criminal cases to make their punishments worse if they did not cooperate with his advances.