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I am a victim of an upskirt filmer who used his ipad in a pet shop in Los Angeles, CA. I reported it to the police and had videos to confirm my claims. After being told by the police that there was little they could do, it was my decision to track down the culprit as I had been harmed. I pieced clues together, which led me to LinkedIn, the social network for work professionals. After a lengthy search looking through profiles, I was able to identify him as an LA County probation officer and court interpreter. I then turned him into the police.

I was very upset that a complete stranger would attempt to film me up my dress without my knowledge or consent. I model for a living. It is my full time job and I am comfortable doing my job when I am at my place of work. There I am in a professional environment with professional people doing a job we are all hired to do. Even when I am at a shoot where I am modeling underwear, swimwear or dresses and gowns I know that everyone on set is a hired professional. I am aware of who the photographer is and the image that he or she is trying to capture and where it will be used. There is always a sense of vulnerability when a shoot requires little clothing so the crew goes out of their way to make sure a model's dignity isn't compromised and that the model feels comfortable. In my experience as a model, I have never had images taken viewing up between my legs like what was done here in a crude, intimidating and violating manner.

Although I am a model, a complete stranger has no right to film up my dress without my knowledge or consent and doing so is reprehensible. I have never worked a modeling job that has left me feeling the violation or humiliation that I felt as a result of what Julio Mario Medal did to me.

Anyone can be a target of unlawful videotaping. It could be your sister, mother or daughter.

I believe in doing the right thing and I am satisfied with the sentencing as it is the maximum that could be imposed under California law. I do believe that offenders of this nature should be required to register as sex offenders. A picture

lasts a lifetime and my images and the ipad disappeared. That will forever bother me considering I work extremely hard to make my industry standards clear and cover up my private body parts. This has been a time consuming and stressful battle to protect my dignity. Because I was afraid that I was followed I moved away from my home for my safety. I was so upset by what he did to me that I missed out on career opportunities, suffered a lack of trust in those around me, and withdrew from 2 semesters at my university.

I felt the defendant saw me like a piece of meat or as a person who was not worthy of respect, but I am a strong person with a great support system, which is why I saw this through to the end of the legal process. I can say that I was the wrong choice of prey as I was raised by my mother who had been a rape victim around my age and they never found the man. She grew up looking over her shoulder and always taught me to protect myself which is why I took the search into my own hands. I felt sexually assaulted believing that the defendant had photos of my private parts up my dress, so that every day I worry about what he has done with it. I wonder if he now thinks that it was worth it to him to commit the crime against me.

Brittanie Weaver  
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