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MIAMI-DADE

Police sergeant acquitted

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A Miami-Dade police sergeant is hoping to get his job back after he was acquitted Monday of charges that he attacked his former wife in July 2007.

Originally, prosecutors alleged that Sgt. Raymond Richard Lumarque, 41, broke into the home of his ex-wife, smothered her with a pillow and sexually assaulted her after he viewed explicit text messages she had sent to another man. He had been charged with a slew of felonies, including attempted murder, sexual battery and burglary.



LUMARQUE

But last week, right before trial, prosecutors dropped most of the serious charges because of a lack of evidence. Instead, Lumarque was charged with trespassing, misdemeanor simple battery and false imprisonment, a third-degree felony punishable by up to five years in prison.

Miami-Dade jurors late Monday acquitted him of all but the misdemeanor trespassing charge. Miami-Dade Circuit Judge Bertila Soto sentenced Lumarque to six months probation and granted him a "withhold of adjudication," which means no conviction will show on his criminal history.

Defense attorney Mark Seiden said the former Miami-Dade Police patrol sergeant in the Northside district, suspended without pay, hopes to get his job back.