

## **Tears, anger, fear and sadness in Brownsville**

Written by Ramiro Burr

Saturday, 21 October 2006 20:55 -

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(UPDATE: 3:12 p.m.

Sentence is in: 3 counts: 20, 4.5 and 8 -- for total of 32.5 years.

Prosecutors had asked for consecutive, not concurrent, sentences but the word is the sentences are to run concurrently. More details in a few minutes.)

The latest chapter in the Joe Lopez saga reached its climax at about 3 p.m. today when

a Brownsville jury announced his sentence of 20, 4.5 and 8 -- for total of 32.5 years.

Sentence details here:

Prison Time for Tejano Singer Joe Lopez

More gripping, shocking and sad testimony was revealed today in these new stories:

Jury Resumes Deliberating Fate of Tejano Singer Joe Lopez

Jury still out on Lopez sentencing; Singer's children plead for leniency; more alleged victims come forward

Singer's defense asks for probation

Radio stations, musicians and fans react:

Reaction at Tex-Mex radio has been mixed but so far no one has announced a boycott of Joe Lopez music.

DJs have held various informal public polls at KXTN-FM and other radio stations around Texas, but so far no stations have officially announced they are pulling Joe Lopez music.

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At McAllen's huge KPPS-FM station Program Director Mando San Roman said fans may be divided on the man, but they love his music:

"We are definitely playing his music simply because it is music our listeners appreciate. And most said they feel the music has nothing to do with the crime."

San Roman said when the guilty verdict was announced last week, there were some people who called in asking why we were playing Lopez' music.

"But since then, I would say about 80-90 percent people were supportive of the music. Many said they that if he was found guilty, he would have to handle whatever he did and justice will be done, but they love the music of Lopez and Mazz."

San Antonio musicians and longtime Mazz fan Rod Nichols also had mixed feelings.

"The fact is, Lopez was a big part of the industry and his music was good, you can not deny that," he said. "But on the flip side, I can see why some people would feel that by playing the music, the stations are supportive of that lifestyle."