

Original URL: <http://www.jsonline.com/news/metro/may04/232404.asp>

## Man gets 7 months for secret taping

### He recorded 7 women in bathroom of his Whitefish Bay home

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**Posted: May 26, 2004**

A man convicted of secretly videotaping seven women while they showered and used the bathroom will spend seven months at the House of Correction and three years on probation, a judge ruled Wednesday.

Samir G. Gulrajani, 32, pleaded no contest in April to seven misdemeanor counts of invasion of privacy for recording the women at his Whitefish Bay home between 1998 and 2002 through a low-angle bathroom vent.

Under the plea agreement, he will be able to leave jail to work on the weekends, will pay \$2,500 in fines and serve 100 hours of community service.

Because Gulrajani had no prior criminal record, Milwaukee County Circuit Judge Mary M. Kuhnmuensch stayed her initial sentence of seven consecutive nine-month terms. But if he violates the terms of his probation, he could serve the five-plus years.

In 2002, a woman discovered the hidden camera, which was manually triggered from a bedroom, and she eventually went to police.

In court Wednesday, some of Gulrajani's wept and gave teary statements about how they live with fear and anxiety after being unknowingly recorded in the nude.

"Words can't even begin to describe the pain he has caused," one victim said.

"He took away my ability to feel safe in my own environment. . . . It makes my skin crawl," said another woman caught on tape.

Gulrajani claims to have destroyed other tapes not turned over to police, but prosecutor Jane Carroll said the women fear that may not be true.

Three of the women are seeking damages from Gulrajani in a joint lawsuit.

"We are pursuing a civil case so he would own up to all he has done," said Jay Urban, an attorney representing one of the women in the civil case.

Urban said the women deserve monetary compensation for the pain and humiliation they have been through.

Gulrajani's attorney in the civil case, Terry Johnson, said that his client has been punished enough.

The judge received dozens of letters in support of Gulrajani from family and friends, including one from his psychotherapist that said he was remorseful and posed no threat to the welfare of society.

Because Gulrajani pleaded no contest, the women's attorneys will have to try the case over to prove his culpability in civil court.

From the May 27, 2004, editions of the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel  
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