

## Wotta load of bull! 'Fighter' has no huevos – flees the ring and retires from sport



### WHAT'S THE MATADOR?

A terrified torero bailed out in the middle of a Mexico City bullfight, running scared from the ring before taking a flying leap over the fence to safety.

Not-so-macho Christian Hernandez immediately retired after bolting from the bullring, and offered a perfectly plausible explanation for his instant career change.

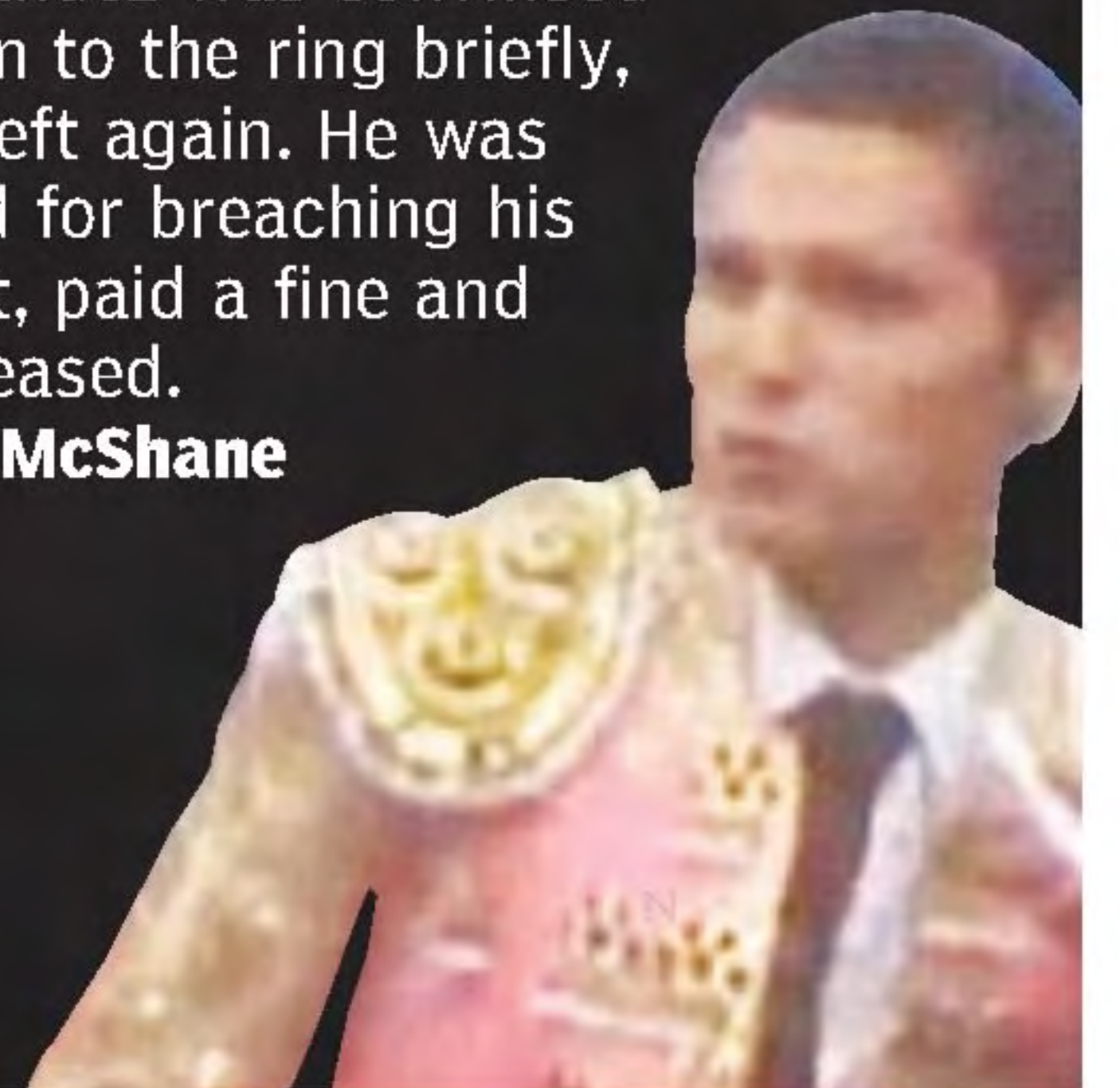
"There are some things you must be aware of about yourself," he said after Sunday's fiasco. "I didn't have the ability, I didn't have the balls, this is not my thing."

Hernandez, in a video clip, was pirouetting and waving his red cape at the bull before turning tail and heading for the sidelines.

The crowd hooted and whistled angrily at Hernandez, 22, who dropped his cape and clearly wanted no more of the half-ton beast still snorting inside the Plaza Mexico.

Hernandez was convinced to return to the ring briefly, but he left again. He was arrested for breaching his contract, paid a fine and was released.

Larry McShane



# SEX OFFENDER HORROR

## Attempts to rape counselor at troubled Bronx Psychiatric Center



Sex offender William Powell

A HULKING sex offender at the troubled Bronx Psychiatric Center tried to rape a counselor who barely managed to fight her way free, the Daily News has learned.

Patient William Powell, 40, barged into the victim's office Sunday, grabbed her by the neck with one hand and covered her mouth with his other hand to prevent her from screaming, according to court papers.

The 6-foot-3, 230-pound suspect tried to yank down her pants and underwear while stifling her screams, according to court papers, but she fought back and managed to break away.

### EXCLUSIVE

BY JOHN MARZULLI,  
BRENDAN BROSH  
and ROCCO PARASCANDOLA  
DAILY NEWS WRITERS

She quickly reported what happened, sources said, and Powell was arrested Monday.

He was charged with attempted rape and attempted sexual abuse and held on \$100,000 bail.

His lawyer did not respond to a request for comment, and the state Office of Mental Health refused comment.

It was not immediately clear

why Powell was at the center, where two patients previously alleged they were sexually abused since 2008. Powell served more than eight years for a 1996 attempted rape in Manhattan, and more than two years in prison for an attempted robbery conviction in Queens in the early 1990s.

The News reported in January that a teen patient at the center claimed he was raped by an unidentified hospital employee and another patient last summer.

State investigators uncovered what sources called "credible evidence" the 14-year-old boy was attacked, although no criminal charges were filed. At the same

center in February, a 22-year-old patient claimed he was molested by a worker who was a registered sex offender in Florida.

Employee John Washington said on his application that he was an ex-con but didn't reveal he had committed a sex crime; the hospital never checked.

Washington worked there for nearly three years until he was accused of sexually abusing the victim in March 2008, according to a lawsuit filed by the victim.

No criminal charges were filed because the Bronx district attorney's office said it "was not a prosecutable case."

raparascandola@nydailynews.com

# Nod father's son sought to turn his real life into reel life

BY JOHN MARZULLI  
DAILY NEWS STAFF WRITER

BEFORE HE SOLD out his gangster father, mob turncoat John Franzese Jr. tried to sell his life story to Hollywood.

The prodigal son hoped to hit it big after deciding to write his memoirs with a fellow drunk he met in L.A. rehab eight years ago, federal prosecutors revealed yesterday.

"Being in Hollywood, you throw in some of the gangster garbage," Franzese said in

Brooklyn Federal Court. "That's a marketing tool."

But he pledged not to write with "The John Franzese Story – Family, Crime, Drugs, Redemption" as a condition of going into the federal witness protection program.

Franzese took a pounding on the witness stand for a fourth day over his motivation for wearing a wire against his 93-year-old father, reputed Colombo underboss John (Sonny) Franzese.

It's the only known case of a mobster's son taking the stand against his father.

Defense lawyers have argued that Franzese Jr. was a nobody and a loser who traded on his father's name throughout his life.

Since becoming an informant for the FBI in 2004, he's received over \$400,000 in housing, medical and cash benefits from the government.

Franzese Jr. fidgeted uncomfortably as defense lawyer Ray Colon reminded him that he wrote about his father in glowing

terms.

"He was a great father," Franzese said. "I'm here to testify that he's a member of organized crime."

Older brother Michael Franzese, a former capo who left the mob to write books and preach, said it's obvious to him why his brother betrayed his old man.

"It was all for the money," Michael Franzese said outside court. "I hope he finds peace somewhere."

jmarzulli@nydailynews.com