

*** NEWS RELEASE ***

CHILD MOLESTER SENTENCED TO 18 YEARS IN PRISON

IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Monterey County District Attorney Dean D. Flippo announced that today, Allen Barrett Jones of Seaside was sentenced to eighteen years in the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation for six counts of lewd and lascivious acts upon a child under the age of fourteen. The charges relate to sexual conduct with his step-daughter from 2007 through 2015.

Jones, 44, was a resident of Seaside when he was arrested in 2015 and charged with child molestation that began when the victim was seven years of age and continued until she was fifteen years old. On September 26, 2016, the defendant pled guilty to six counts, four of which included the allegation of substantial sexual conduct.

The victim and her father attended today's sentencing hearing and the victim's father, a military veteran, spoke on his daughter's behalf asking the court for the maximum punishment. The father emotionally described for the court the symptoms of post-traumatic stress disorder that he sees in his daughter as a result of the sexual abuse.

The District Attorney's Office pointed out to the court the fact that in 2011 the victim partially disclosed to her school counselor but recanted the allegations when her mother told the victim, she and her siblings would be taken from the home as a result of the disclosure. This was an aggravating factor that enabled the abuse to continue for four more years.

Judge Carrie Panetta found the act of asking the victim at age 8 to place her hand on a Bible and swear never to tell about the abuse was an aggravating factor. She described Jones as a serious danger to our society for perpetrating separate sexual acts over such a long period of time. Honorable Judge Panetta sentenced the defendant to consecutive sentences for each of the six counts for a total term of eighteen years and ordered Jones to register as a sex offender for the rest of his life.

Det. Eduardo Enriquez of the Seaside Police Department and DA Investigator Jorge Gutierrez investigated the case. District Attorney victim advocate Alma Sanchez and special canine advocate, Odie, supported the victim in today's sentencing.

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