



JEANNINE M. PACIONI
District Attorney

PRESS RELEASE

February 5, 2019

Contact: Lana Nassoura, Deputy District Attorney
Telephone: 831-755-5255

45-YEAR-OLD SALINAS MAN SENTENCED TO 15 YEARS IN PRISON FOR CHILD MOLESTATION

People v Jose Tamayo; SS161633A

SALINAS, California- Monterey County District Attorney Jeannine M. Pacioni announced today that Judge Mark E. Hood sentenced Jose Tamayo, age 45, a resident of Salinas, to fifteen years in prison for committing one count of continuous sexual acts with a child under the age of fourteen years, and two counts of committing a lewd act on a child under the age of fourteen years. All three charges are violent felonies and are considered “strikes” under California’s Three Strikes law.

On October 4, 2016, Jane Doe, who was under fourteen years old at the time, reported to her school staff that Jose Tamayo had been sexually assaulting her. Jane Doe stated that Tamayo molested her since she was five years old, and the most recent sexual assault occurred on October 1, 2016.

At today’s sentencing hearing, Jane Doe bravely addressed the court and explained the effects the molestation has had on her. Doe stated “After today, I can say I am a survivor, and I truly believe it from within. After coming up here today, I feel complete, as if this [was] my last step of healing. I accept what happened to me, but it does not define me.” Doe added “I’ve learned to turn negatives into positives...I am not happy with the assault, but it has made a survivor out of me.” During the hearing, Judge Mark E. Hood stated that “Jane Doe has shown strength and courage to come forward and stop these acts.” Judge Hood also stated that defendant is “the only person who is responsible...I hope someday the defendant understands the true nature and horror of what he did in this case.”

In addition to the fifteen-year prison sentence, Tamayo will be required to register as a sex offender for life. A restraining order was granted prohibiting Tamayo from contacting Doe for a period of ten years, the maximum term under the law.

The case was investigated by the Salinas Police Department.