



**JEANNINE M. PACIONI**  
District Attorney

## ***PRESS RELEASE***

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### **48-YEAR-OLD SEASIDE MAN PLED GUILTY TO FOUR COUNTS OF FORCIBLE CHILD MOLESTATION**

*People v. Andres Vargas Herrera; 18CR004880*

*SALINAS*, California- Monterey County District Attorney Jeannine M. Pacioni announced today that Andres Vargas Herrera, age 48, a resident of Seaside, pled guilty to four counts of forcible sexually molesting a child under the age of 14 years. All four charges are violent felonies and are considered “strikes” under California’s Three Strikes law.

Jane Doe reported that Herrera, who is a family member, molested her repeatedly when she was between ten to twelve years old. The assaults occurred when Doe’s mother was not around. Jane Doe explained that she was very afraid of Herrera, and as a result, she didn’t report the molestation until many years later. According to research into sexual assault victim behavior, it is very common for victims to delay reporting the sexual abuse for many years, especially when the victim is a minor and has a close relationship with the perpetrator.

Judge Carrie M. Panetta will sentence Herrera to 22 to 28 years in state prison. In addition to his prison sentence, Herrera will be required to register as a sex offender for life.

The case was investigated by Detective Byron Gansen from the Salinas Police Department, and District Attorney Investigator Terri Edwards. Jane Doe was assisted by District Attorney Victim Advocate Kristin Gebin.