



JEANNINE M. PACIONI
District Attorney

PRESS RELEASE

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Contact: Christopher Puck, Deputy District Attorney
Telephone: 831-796-6096

27-YEAR-OLD KINGSBURG MAN PLEADS NO CONTEST TO ENGAGING IN LEWD ACTS WITH A 12-YEAR OLD IN MONTEREY

People v Robert Gomez; 18CR006808

SALINAS, California- Monterey County District Attorney Jeannine M. Pacioni announced today that Robert Gomez, age 27, a resident of Kingsburg, Fresno County, pled guilty to three felony charges alleged in the information: lewd act with a child under age of 14, oral copulation of a minor under 14 years of age, and digital penetration of a minor under 14 years of age.

In Summer of 2018, 12-year-old Jane Doe met Gomez through the internet on the social media application, SnapChat. Gomez was 26-years-old at the time, but he lied and told Jane Doe that he was 15-years-old when she told him she was 12-years-old. Their conversation quickly turned from flirtatious to the solicitation of lewd images. At Gomez's suggestion, Jane Doe and Gomez sent each other lewd photos of each other through SnapChat. In two separate occasions in August of 2018, Gomez drove to Monterey and met with Jane Doe. During these dates, Gomez and Jane Doe engaged in multiple acts in public and in his vehicle including: kissing, groping, oral copulation of each other, and digital penetration of Jane Doe. Gomez repeatedly asked for sexual intercourse, but Jane Doe declined. In October 2018, Jane Doe reported these incidents to a counselor who contacted law enforcement. After extensive investigation, Detective Zook from the Monterey Police Department was able to determine the identity and location of Gomez. When interviewed, Gomez admitted engaging in this conduct with Jane Doe, as well as numerous other undetermined minors from other counties in the state. Gomez admitted he would find these minors through social media applications and travel to their locations.

Judge Rafael Vasquez will preside over the sentencing on June 4, 2019. Gomez agreed to a stipulated 10 years prison sentence. In addition, Gomez will be required to register as a sex offender for life.

The case was investigated by Det. Kimberly Zook and Officer Costa of the Monterey Police Department.