



OFFICE OF THE  
**DISTRICT ATTORNEY**

COUNTY OF SHASTA

**Gerald C. Benito**  
*District Attorney*

Daniel E. Flynn  
*Assistant District Attorney*

**PRESS RELEASE**

**April 30, 2008**

**MAN SENTENCED TO 9 YEARS STATE PRISON FOR  
CORPORAL INJURY TO A 5 WEEK OLD CHILD**

Michael Fidler, 21, of Anderson, was sentenced today following his April 3, 2008, plea of guilty to one count of Corporal Injury to Child and his admission of one enhancement for Inflicting Great Bodily Injury Upon a Child Under 5 years old. The Honorable James Ruggiero sentenced Fidler to 9 years in state prison.

On February 2, 2008, the 5 week old victim was taken to Mercy Medical Center after she went limp and her eyes stopped moving. She received initial medical treatment at Mercy then was transported to UC Davis Medical Center in Sacramento where she was treated by Pediatric Specialists. It was determined at UC Davis Medical Center that the victim had suffered non-accidental injuries including multiple rib fractures (both fresh and healing), retinal hemorrhages and a subdural hematoma.

When initially contacted, Fidler denied physically abusing the victim. Approximately two weeks after making his initial statement, Fidler contacted the Anderson Police Department and confessed. Fidler admitted to shaking and squeezing the victim because she was crying and he was frustrated. After shaking and squeezing her, Fidler then dropped her into her crib causing her to hit her head on a baby monitor. Fidler also confessed to abusing her in a similar fashion a few weeks before she was taken to the hospital.

The case was investigated by Anderson Police Department Detective Gina Collier and was prosecuted by Deputy District Attorney Stephanie Bridgett. Barbara Dorris, from Crime Victim Assistance, was the Advocate on the case.