



OFFICE OF THE
DISTRICT ATTORNEY
COUNTY OF SHASTA

Stephen S. Carlton
District Attorney

Santa Cruz Man Convicted of Child Molest

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Deputy District Attorney:
Rachel Donahou
(530)245-6300

Jay Michael Jones, 39 of Santa Cruz, was convicted by jury today of six felony counts of Lewd and Lascivious Acts With a Child Under 14 Years and the jury found true that five of the counts included Substantial Sexual Conduct.

The defendant molested a female family member when he stayed with her family in Cottonwood when she was nine years old. He molested her again when she went to visit him in Santa Cruz when she was eleven years old. When the victim was in high school, she disclosed the molests and the case was investigated. The five day trial concluded today and a five woman, seven man jury returned the verdicts in just under three hours of deliberation.

The Court also found true that the defendant has suffered a previous serious felony under California's Three Strikes Law. The defendant is facing up to 41 years in state prison for these crimes. His sentencing is scheduled on July 16, 2012 with the Honorable William Gallagher.

This case was investigated by Deputy Steven Curtiss of the Shasta County Sheriff's Office and prosecuted by Deputy District Attorney Rachel Donahou. The victims were assisted by Deborah Heide and Candice Biddle of the Crime Victim's Assistance Center.
