



OFFICE OF THE
DISTRICT ATTORNEY
COUNTY OF SHASTA

Stephen S. Carlton
District Attorney

**MAN CONVICTED OF LEWD OR LASCIVIOUS ACTS WITH HIS
GIRLFRIEND'S DAUGHTER**

October 11, 2013
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Deputy District Attorney: Sarah Van Slyke
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Thursday, October 10, 2013, a Shasta County jury found Craig Benidict Lee, 60, former Igo/Ono School District Principal and Lagunitas School District Superintendent, guilty of three felony counts of Lewd or Lascivious Acts with a Minor Under the Age of 14 years, in violation of Penal 288(a) and one felony count of Failure to Report Change of Address to Law Enforcement, in violation of Penal Code section 290.013.

Lee had a prior conviction for Possession of Child Pornography, in violation of Penal Code section 311.11, from 2008. Lee was the superintendent of the Lagunitas School District when the child pornography was discovered. Lee's prior conviction requires him to register as a sex offender.

Lee began to register as a transient sex offender in Shasta County in 2010. Lee was registering as a transient sex offender, even though he was spending 2 to 3 nights a week and approximately 50% of his days at his girlfriend's home in Redding. Prior to their apartment in Redding, Lee and his girlfriend were residing in the City of Shasta Lake where Lee was staying 2 to 3 nights a week at his girlfriend's apartment and registering as a transient sex offender. Under the law, Lee was required to register those addresses with law enforcement because he was residing at them.

While Lee was unlawfully registering as a transient sex offender, he had access to his girlfriend's children whom were living at the residences with Lee and his girlfriend. During this time period, Lee molested one of his girlfriend's daughters, the victim, over a period of a year. The victim reported the molestation to family members who reported the conduct to Child & Family Services. The victim's mother was aware of Lee's status as a registered sex offender because she discovered and reported to law enforcement the child pornography possessed by Lee. The victim's mother continued to allow Lee to reside in the same home as the victim.

Evidence at trial showed the victim's mother was advised by her daughter and other family members of the molestation, after it occurred, but continued her relationship with Lee.

Lee faces a potential 12 years 8 months and will continue to be required to register for life as a sex offender under Penal Code section 290.

The case was prosecuted by Deputy District Attorney Sarah Van Slyke and investigated by Investigator Brian Cole of the Redding Police Department.