



OFFICE OF THE
DISTRICT ATTORNEY
COUNTY OF SHASTA

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**COTTONWOOD MAN SENTENCED TO 54 YEARS IN STATE PRISON
FOR MOLESTING A YOUNG GIRL**

August 25, 2015
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Today, Judge (assigned) Garrett Olney sentenced Gordon Charles Grissom, 41 years old, to 54 years in state prison for 19 counts of Lewd or Lascivious Acts with a Minor, in violation of Penal Code section 288(a), one count of oral copulation with a minor, in violation of Penal Code section 288a, two counts of sexual penetration, in violation of Penal Code section 289, five counts of unlawful sexual intercourse, in violation of Penal Code section 261.5 and other sexual assault crimes.

Evidence presented at trial showed the victim, who is now 17 years old, lived with the defendant who began having sexual intercourse with the victim when she was 12 years old. The victim testified to numerous sexual acts she performed with the defendant. She described having to have sexual contact with the defendant at least once a month but at times the frequency was much more often. The victim did not report the sexual abuse until she was 16 years old because she was afraid something might happen to herself and the defendant. The victim gave birth to a child when she was 15 years old. DNA confirmed Grissom is the biological father of a baby the victim gave birth too. The victim testified that she did not disclose the true father's information at the hospital because she thought her baby would be taken away from her.

Grissom was interviewed by detectives with the Shasta County Sheriff's office and he admitted to having sexual intercourse with the victim approximately 50 times along with other sexual acts. At sentencing Grissom told the Court that he wanted to marry the victim and take care of their child.

Grissom is 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 Detective Chris Edwards of the Shasta County Sheriff's Office. The victim was supported by Victim Advocate Deborah Heide.