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PRESS RELEASE

For immediate release

Contact:

Date: 9-21-06

Re: Gerald Duane Welsh

Phone:

Modesto, California – Stanislaus County District Attorney Birgit Fladager announced today that Gerald Duane Welsh, 36, of Ceres was convicted by jury trial of two counts of Lewd and Lascivious Acts with a Child, Possession of Child Porn, and Showing Harmful Matter to a Child. The victims were 11 years old and 8 years old. Welsh has 3 prior convictions for sexual assaults, from 1992 and 1996, and was a 290 registrant at the time he committed his latest assaults. Deputy District Attorney Annette Rees prosecuted the case.

The crimes occurred in 2003 and 2005, and the victims did not know each other. Ms. Rees called 3 prior victims to testify during the jury trial, as well as the current victims. “It was very emotional and difficult evidence to present, but there was no way we were going to allow this man to continue to prey upon children and young girls in our community. Even 14 years later, the victims of Gerald Welsh are emotionally and physically affected by his molests,” Ms. Rees stated.

Sentencing is scheduled for October 18, 2006 before the Honorable Donald N. Shaver. Welsh faces 52 years - life in prison.

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