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PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

Date: March 10, 2017
Re: Britton Lee Schutte
State Prison Sentence

For More Information Contact:

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Modesto, California - Stanislaus County District Attorney Birgit Fladager announced today that Britton Lee Schutte, age 47, of Modesto, was sentenced to state prison for sexually assaulting a minor under age 14. Deputy District Attorney Blythe Harris prosecuted the case on behalf of the People.

In July of 2015, the victim, who was friends with Schutte's teenaged daughter, spent the night at Schutte's residence. After she went to sleep, Schutte removed some of her clothing and began taking photographs of her sleeping. When the camera flash woke her up, Schutte proceeded to sodomize the victim and digitally penetrate her vagina. The next day, the victim told her family what had happened and they notified the Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department. Schutte was arrested and felony criminal charges were filed.

On March 6, 2017, Schutte pleaded no contest to felony charges of sodomizing a minor under age 14, penetration by a foreign object of a minor under 14, and making an image of a minor engaged in sexual conduct.

Judge Shawn Bessey sentenced Schutte to 8 years in state prison and required him to register as a sex offender for the rest of his life. Schutte must serve at least 85% of his sentence in state prison custody. Two of these offenses qualify as "strikes" under California's "Three Strikes Law" that can be used to increase any sentence for future crimes if Schutte is convicted of a new felony after he gets released from prison.

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