



Office of the District Attorney Stanislaus County

Jeff Laugero
District Attorney

Assistant District Attorney
Mark Zahner

Chief Deputies
Marlisa Ferreira
Wendell Emerson
Michael D. Houston
Rick Mury
Joseph Chavez

Bureau of Investigation
Chief Terry L. Seese

PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

Date: October 8, 2024
Re: Britton Lee Schutte
Child Molester Denied Parole

For More Information Contact:

Wendell Emerson, Public Information Liaison
Phone: (209) 525-5509

Modesto, California - Stanislaus County District Attorney Jeff Laugero announced today that Britton Lee Schutte, age 54, of Modesto was denied release on parole after an October 3, 2024 hearing of the State Board of Parole Hearings at California Health Care Facility in Stockton, California. Deputy District Attorney Victoria Vasquez appeared at the hearing 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. The Honorable Shawn Bessey sentenced Schutte to eight years in state prison and required him to register as a sex offender for the rest of his life. Schutte was ordered to serve at least 85% of his sentence in state prison custody.

On April 6, 2021, Schutte was released on parole. After his release, he failed to attend five of his sex offender programs in the community, but explained to the Board of Parole, that was because of his work obligations. On March 22, 2024, Schutte was found in possession of 100 plus images of child pornography and was re-arrested. Following Schutte's revocation of parole, Schutte was remanded to prison.

Schutte appeared before the Board of Parole on October 3 because his offense requires hearing before his re-release on parole under Pen. Code section 3000(b)(4).

At the hearing, Schutte blamed his new offense on his inability to contact his counselor for two months. The Board found that after Schutte was returned to prison, Schutte had not attempted to attend programs to address his sexually deviant behavior nor did his relapse plans address his sexually deviant behavior. The Board also stated Schutte lacked credibility.

The Board denied Schutte parole finding him a risk to public safety. Schutte will be scheduled for another review hearing in 12 months.

###