



RIVERSIDE COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY
NEWS RELEASE
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**DESERT HOT SPRINGS MAN FOUND GUILTY OF 10 FELONIES
INCLUDING LEWD ACTS ON A CHILD AND HUMAN TRAFFICKING**

BANNING – Today, February 17, 2016 -- exactly one year after Riverside County District Attorney Mike Hestrin announced charges against several men accused of being involved in a significant child pornography, child human trafficking, and child sexual abuse ring – a Riverside County jury found one of those men guilty of 10 felonies.

John David Yoder, DOB: 4-24-71, of Desert Hot Springs, was convicted of 10 of the 11 counts he was charged with including lewd and lascivious acts on a child under 14, child procurement (persuading a child to commit a sexual act), human trafficking, conspiracy to produce child pornography, and harboring a fugitive. The eight-man, four-woman jury found Yoder not guilty of one child procurement count.

The jury's verdicts were read at the Banning Justice Center late Wednesday afternoon. Jurors began deliberating around noon a day earlier.

Yoder, who remains in custody without the possibility of bail, is scheduled to return to court on April 29, 2016, to be sentenced. He faces a maximum of nearly 30 years in state prison.

A second man charged in this case, Erick Alan Monsivais, DOB: 11-29-85, of Los Angeles, entered into a plea agreement with the DA's Office prior to his trial. Part of that agreement includes that he testify truthfully if called to do so at the trials of his co-defendants. Monsivais did testify at Yoder's trial. As part of his plea, Monsivais is expected to be sentenced to 45 years at a later date.

Two other men have been charged in this case and are awaiting trial. They are Noland Anthony Harper, DOB: 5-5-54, of Virginia; and William Clyde Thompson, DOB: 5-1-60, of Nevada. Harper is scheduled to be arraigned on March 11, 2016, and Thompson is in federal custody in Nevada. Once he is tried for charges there, he will be brought to Riverside County to stand trial here.

It is alleged that the defendants in this case were involved in various ways in a conspiracy that targeted underage boys who were enticed to pose for photographs, some of which were child erotica or child pornography in exchange for cash or gifts. The defendants then "groomed" some of the boys over time which ultimately led to them becoming victims of various sex acts. The victims were also "trafficked" among the defendants.

The case, RIF1501674, is being prosecuted by Deputy District Attorneys William Robinson and Samantha Paixao.

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