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Undercover Operation Leads to Lewd Contact with a Minor Conviction
People v. Daniel Reed: Kern County Superior Court Case BF198526A

(Bakersfield) - District Attorney Cynthia Zimmer announced a significant lewd contact with a minor conviction. On May 24, 2024, Daniel Reed pled to a stipulated 8 years prison for contacting a minor with the intent to commit a sex act.

Deputies from the Kern County Sheriff's Office (KCSO) Sexual Assault Unit regularly conduct online operations targeting adults who use dating apps to solicit minors for sex. Reed, under an alias, sent a chat request to KCSO's undercover social account on January 6, 2024. The decoy responded, and a conversation spanned several weeks, during which Reed turned the conversation sexual. Reed told the decoy he wanted to commit sexual acts with him and also sent nude photos. After being told the decoy was 16, he continued to discuss sexual acts. On the day Reed arrived to meet him at the agreed upon location, Reed was apprehended by KCSO on March 9, 2024.

Reed, a convicted sex offender, has prior convictions for contacting a minor with the intent to commit a sex act, lewd and lascivious acts with a child under 14, and sodomy with a person under 18 from 2011 offenses.

On May 24, 2024, Reed was sentenced to 8 years by Superior Court Judge Collette Humphrey.

District Attorney Cynthia Zimmer stated, "Childhood sexual exploitation is an abhorrent crime that can have lifelong consequences for victims. This preemptive law enforcement effort prevented a repeat predator from harming yet another victim."