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PRESS RELEASE **SERIAL CHILD MOLESTER SENTENCED TO LIFE IN PRISON**

Napa County District Attorney Allison Haley announced today:

On May 28, 2021, Flemin Fernando Martinez, aged 36, was sentenced to 197 years to life in State Prison by the Honorable Mark Boessenecker of Napa Superior Court. Additionally, Judge Boessenecker awarded \$715,000 in noneconomic damages to the victims and their families.

On April 20, 2021, a Napa jury found the defendant guilty of 12 counts of lewd act upon a child, two counts of oral copulation with a child ten or under, one count of forcible rape of a child over 14, one count of using a minor for sex acts, and one count of possession of matter depicting a minor engaging in sexual conduct after a six-day jury trial.

The convictions were the result of sexual contact the defendant had with three family members and one friend between 2011 and 2019 in Napa County. The survivors were between seven and 16-years-old at the time of the molestations. The investigation by the Napa Police Department was prompted by a close friend of one survivor reporting the disclosure of sexual abuse to a family member who was also a school official. Three of the survivors and their families were present at the sentencing hearing, and all of the survivors addressed the court with impact statements either personally or via letters which were read aloud in court.

One of the survivors who spoke at the sentencing stated, "I shouldn't have felt embarrassed or ashamed or guilty about what you did, that's how you should feel, not me . . . I'm ready to let go of all of this. I'm ready to heal and grow and I'll be doing that with the people that love me."

The case was prosecuted by Napa County Deputy District Attorney Agnes Dziadur. Napa County Police Department Detectives Brandt Keown and Jason Barrera led the investigation. Napa County District Attorney Investigator Sharon Fong assisted in the prosecution. Sexual Assault Victim Services provided advocacy for the survivors.

Any questions regarding this case may be directed to Assistant District Attorney Paul Gero.