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PRESS RELEASE

ANTIOCH MAN SENTENCED TO PRISON FOR HUMAN TRAFFICKING OF A MINOR

Napa County District Attorney Allison Haley announced today the sentence of Antioch resident Jaquian Iscell Burton, age 22, who was convicted in July 2018 of Felony Pandering and Felony Human Trafficking of a Minor. Today, Judge Francisca Tisher sentenced Mr. Burton to state prison for six years and four months. In addition, Mr. Burton will have to register as a sex offender pursuant to Penal Code section 290. The investigation was handled by the Napa Special Investigations Bureau ('NSIB')—a multi-agency taskforce that includes detectives from the Napa Police Department, Napa Sheriff's Office, California Highway Patrol, Napa County Probation and the Napa County District Attorney's Office.

Defendant's convictions in this case stem from an undercover NSIB operation targeting human traffickers in March of 2018. Defendant is an admitted pimp and traveled to the city of Napa intending to pick up a female he believed to be a sex worker. He told investigators that he expected her to make him at least \$1,000 per day. Defendant was on probation for a Felony Robbery conviction out of San Joaquin County at the time he was located and arrested.

Subsequent investigation after Defendant's initial arrest revealed that he had previously utilized social media to contact a 16-year-old high school student in Kings County for the purpose of recruiting her to work for him as a sex worker. Detectives determined that Defendant knew the victim was a minor and told her not to tell her friends or family about their communication.

The Napa County District Attorney's Office works in collaboration with NSIB to combat human trafficking in Napa County. This is the fourth human trafficking case to resolve since the agencies have begun proactively pursuing human trafficking predators. Of the eight human trafficking cases presented to District Attorney Haley's office for prosecution since 2016, three have pled guilty and accepted state prison sentences, two are pending in the court system, and two have outstanding arrest warrants.

Deputy District Attorney Taryn Hunter, who handles the human trafficking cases for the District Attorney's Office, commented that "This is the first Human Trafficking of a Minor conviction in Napa County. If it was not for the proactive operation conducted by NSIB and the countless hours of follow-up investigation by the detectives in this case, the minor victim may have never been identified. Hopefully Defendant's prison sentence and his future registration as a sex offender will deter him—and others—from trying to exploit any more victims."

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