



**Twelfth Judicial District**  
**State of New Mexico**  
OTERO, LINCOLN COUNTIES

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DISTRICT ATTORNEY

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

September 20, 2018

**CHRISTOPHER MITCHELL CONVICTED OF CRIMINAL SEXUAL PENETRATION OF A MINOR AND SEVEN COUNTS OF CRIMINAL SEXUAL CONTACT OF A MINOR**

Twelfth Judicial District Attorney John P. Sugg announced today that an Otero County jury has found Christopher Mitchell, age 35, guilty of First Degree Criminal Sexual Penetration of a Minor (Child Under 13), and seven counts of Criminal Sexual Contact of a Minor in the Second Degree (Person in Position of Authority) following a two-day trial before the Honorable Steven E. Blankinship.

In February 2014, the Alamogordo Police Department (APD) interviewed a mother who was concerned that Mitchell, her boyfriend, was having sex with her daughter. The child was 15 years old at the time, and Mitchell had been in the child's life since she was 6 years old.

While Mitchell and the child initially denied having a sexual relationship, the child later came forward in 2016 to report that Mitchell was harassing her. Law enforcement was able to observe a text message from Mitchell to the child stating "Baby you are mine get used to it." The child subsequently disclosed being involved sexually with Mitchell since age 10 when they lived in Arkansas. The sexual relationship continued when she moved to Alamogordo and did not end until she 17 years old. Mitchell became jealous and began harassing the child after she stopped having sex with him. The child disclosed hundreds of sexual encounters with Mitchell, and APD was able to locate corroborating witnesses and evidence which helped secure the 8 convictions.

Mitchell faces up to 130 years at a sentencing hearing expected to occur later this year. This case was prosecuted by Chief Deputy District Attorney Scot Key, and was investigated by the Alamogordo Police Department. Detective Kyle Graham was the lead detective.

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