



STATE OF NEW MEXICO
Office of the District Attorney
Twelfth Judicial District

Scot D. Key
District Attorney

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

April 11, 2022

JAMES SCHARMACK CONVICTED OF 15 COUNTS OF CRIMINAL SEXUAL PENETRATION OF A CHILD UNDER 13 YEARS OF AGE AND 5 COUNTS OF CRIMINAL SEXUAL CONTACT OF A CHILD UNDER 13 YEARS OF AGE

Twelfth Judicial District Attorney, Scot D. Key, announces an Otero County jury has found James Scharmack, age 41, of Alamogordo, New Mexico, guilty of 15 counts of Criminal Sexual Penetration of a Child Under 13 Years of Age and 5 counts of Criminal Sexual Contact of a Child Under 13 Years of Age. The jury deliberated for approximately one hour and thirty minutes, before returning the guilty verdict. The three-day trial was held before the Honorable District Judge, Steven Blankinship.

This case was the culmination of an investigation conducted by the Alamogordo Police Department in February of 2019, for sex crimes occurring in 2018 and 2019 in Alamogordo, New Mexico. The victims were siblings and relayed the sexual abuse through a note passed to their mother.

The parties appeared for the scheduled three-day trial from April 6, 2022, through April 8, 2022, where Scharmack was convicted of 15 counts of Criminal Sexual Penetration of a Child Under 13 Years of Age and 5 counts of Criminal Sexual Contact of a Child Under 13 Years of Age. During the trial, Dr. Jana Williams of Full Bloom Pediatrics, of Las Cruces, New Mexico, provided professional expert testimony along with Melanie Gilmore of Kid's Inc., Child Advocacy Center.

Scharmack has been in Pre-Trial Detention since February 19, 2019, and will remain incarcerated pending sentencing in the near future. Scharmack will be subject to a mandatory 18-year sentence for each count of Criminal Sexual Penetration. In totality, he faces a possible sentence of 345 years imprisonment in the New Mexico Department of Corrections. A Sentencing Hearing will be scheduled at a later date.

This case was investigated by Detective, William Lewandowski, of the Alamogordo Police Department. Moreover, the Otero County Multi-Disciplinary Team (MDT), was also intimately involved in this case. The MDT is comprised of participating members from agencies, including Kid's Inc., Child Advocacy Center (Forensic Interviewing), SANE (Sexual Assault Nurse Examiners), Children, Youth, and Families Department (CYFD), law enforcement, and the Twelfth Judicial District Attorney's Office.

Scharmack's case was prosecuted by Twelfth Judicial District Attorney, Scot D. Key.

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