



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

SCOT D. KEY
DISTRICT ATTORNEY

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

June 5, 2023

DANIEL MONTOYA SENTENCED TO 115.5 YEARS

District Attorney Scot D. Key announces today that defendant, Daniel Montoya, 61 years of age, of Tularosa was sentenced on Monday to 115 and ½ years in the Department of Corrections for the sexual abuse of a then, 5-year-old, girl who he was babysitting.

An investigation by the Otero County Sheriff's Office in January 2020 led to the arrest of Daniel Montoya for nine counts of Criminal Sexual penetration and criminal sexual contact occurring over about a year time period.

When the young girl revealed the abuse to a counselor, the disclosure led law enforcement to arrange a safehouse interview with KID's Inc. and the activation of the Otero County Multi-Disciplinary Team to investigate the case. The defendant was out of jail on conditions of release since his arrest. The matter finally went to jury trial on May 3rd of this year and an Otero County jury found him guilty of all counts. He was taken into custody after the verdict and was sentenced on July 3rd. The Honorable Angie Schneider presided over the trial and sentencing.

District Attorney Scot Key commented that while the verdict was a successful end to a lengthy investigation and an even longer wait for trial, he was truly thankful of the resiliency and unbelievably strong will of the young victim who waited more than three years to tell her story.

"Yet again we see that cooperation and collaboration of professionals in many different disciplines lead to results such as this. Otero and Lincoln Counties are really lucky to have such a team."