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PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

Date: March 9, 2009
Re: Bernard Duane Enarson – child molester
is sentenced to 3 years in state prison

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Modesto, California - Stanislaus County District Attorney Birgit Fladager announced today that Bernard Enarson, age 40, of Modesto, was convicted, and sentenced, after a plea to Lewd and Lascivious Act upon a Child under the Age of 14. Deputy District Attorney Annette Rees prosecuted the case for the People.

The case arose out of events which began back in May of 2008, when rumors surfaced of the defendant's relationship with the 13 year-old daughter of a friend of his. The defendant was arrested, but the victim denied the relationship and the case could not proceed. In October of 2008, after the victim's parents had obtained a restraining order and told defendant to stay away from their daughter, the defendant continued to seek her out. He was arrested after the victim ran away from home, missed school and was found at his home. At that point, she disclosed that there had been a sexual relationship, beginning when the defendant was 39, and she was just 13 years old. "He got her to ditch school, she used to have A's and B's in school, now she has D's and F's" the victim's mother told Judge Whiteside at sentencing today. "He warped my daughter's life."

Enarson was sentenced to 3 years in state prison. He must register for life as a sex offender, his DNA will be on file, and he will be eligible for consideration to be determined as a sexually violent predator once he is eligible for parole.

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