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**PRESS RELEASE**

**For Immediate Release**

Date: April 20, 2009  
Re: William Wendell Fritz Jr. #1249343  
Three life terms for child molester

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**Modesto, California** - Stanislaus County District Attorney Birgit Fladager announced today that William Wendell Fritz Jr., age 55, of Ceres, entered a plea of guilty to three counts of Lewd Act Upon a Child, all "strikes" under California's "Three Strikes" law. Fritz also admitted three enhancements of committing the crimes against more than one victim. Deputy District Attorney Elaine G. Casillas prosecuted the case for the People.

The case arose out of events that occurred between August 1, 2004 and August 1, 2008 in the city of Ceres. Detective Randy Moore was alerted to 5 video tapes involving numerous sexual acts between Fritz and two young children. Further investigation, which included determining dates on the videos, revealed the children were a 10-year-old girl and a 7-year-old boy. Fritz videotaped himself sexually assaulting the children.

A family member read two statements to the court written by the boy and his mother. John Doe wrote, "For all that is worth, you could rot in that prison and I would not care. But why did you do it to me and other people, I just want to know."

Upon entry of the plea, the Honorable Thomas Zeff sentenced Fritz to three consecutive terms of 15 years-to-life, for a total term of 45 years-to-life.

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