



# Office of the District Attorney Stanislaus County

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## PRESS RELEASE

### For Immediate Release

Date: February 11, 2019  
Re: Christopher Bonander  
Child Molest Conviction

### For More Information Contact:

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**Modesto, California** - Stanislaus County District Attorney Birgit Fladager announced today that Christopher Bonander, age 34, of Turlock, was convicted by a jury on February 4, 2019 of five felony counts including oral copulation of an 8-year-old, lewd and lascivious acts upon a child under 14 years old and exhibiting harmful matter to seduce a minor. The case involved two victims who were eight and nine years old when the crimes occurred. Chief Deputy District Attorney Annette Rees prosecuted the case.

The defendant lived with his girlfriend and her children in Turlock, California beginning in 2014. The crimes occurred from December 2015 through April of 2016. The jury trial lasted two weeks and included testimony from the girls who are now 11 and 12 years old. The jury also heard recorded phone calls that the victim's mother made to the defendant at the request of Detective Tim Redd of the Turlock Police Department. In the calls, the defendant admitted to orally copulating the 8-year-old as well as showing both girls pornography.

The defendant testified during the trial and claimed that he made the admissions only to appease his girlfriend so that she would take him back and allow him to move back in. However, there were other acts the defendant refused to admit, such as exposing himself to the girls; the defendant claimed those acts were "disgusting."

Ms. Rees, in closing argument, drew the jury's attention to the "ridiculous and unreasonable" story that defendant was telling. The jury convicted Bonander of five out of the seven counts alleged.

The defendant is scheduled to be sentenced on March 8, 2019. He faces a maximum sentence of 26 years and 8 months to life in prison. He is also subject to lifetime registration as a sex offender and evaluation as a Sexually Violent Predator.

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