

## GREGORY D. TOTTEN District Attorney

## **NEWS RELEASE**

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## **Oxnard Man Sentenced To 22 Years for Child Molestation**

*VENTURA, California* –District Attorney Gregory D. Totten announced today that Gregorio Santacruz (DOB 3/12/79), of Oxnard was sentenced to 22 years in state prison for molesting two young girls. In January of 2016, a 14-year-old female disclosed to her middle school art teacher that Santacruz had molested her on multiple occasions between the ages of 9 and 12 years old. After the victim's disclosure, school officials notified the Oxnard Police Department, who began interviewing witnesses and searching for additional victims. During their investigation, detectives identified a second victim who told detectives Santacruz repeatedly molested her in a similar manner between the ages of 6 and 12 years old. Santacruz pled guilty in November of 2019, to three counts of lewd conduct with a child under 14 years old and one count of continuous sexual abuse of a child under the age of 14.

On January 12, 2020, Ventura County Superior Court Judge David Hirsch ordered Santacruz to pay restitution to each victim in the amount of \$25,000, in addition to sentencing him to state prison. This case was prosecuted by the District Attorney's Sexual Assault and Family Protection Unit.

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The Ventura County District Attorney's Office is the public prosecutor for the county's 850,000 residents. The office employs approximately 280 employees including attorneys, investigators, victim advocates, and other professional support staff who strive to seek justice, ensure public safety, and protect the rights of crime victims.

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