



BUTTE COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY



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PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

August 4, 2022

CONVICTED CHILD MOLESTER SENTENCED TO 28 YEARS IN PRISON

A Butte County Superior Court Judge yesterday sentenced a multiple-victim child molester to the upper term of 28 years in state prison.

Jason Ashby, 40, of Palermo, plead guilty to multiple felony counts including molestation of three children, child endangerment to two other children caused by his manufacturing of methamphetamine and butane honey oil, and possession of illegal firearms.

Butte County District Attorney Mike Ramsey said the case came to light when one of his victims came forward, which led to a search warrant of Ashby's house, where both a meth lab and a butane honey oil lab were located. The other victims were also contacted during the investigation. Ramsey said the investigation resulted in a dangerous predator being removed from the streets.

Ramsey said despite Ashby's sentence of 28 years, the California Legislature's new "Elder Parole Program" will allow Ashby to seek parole after only twenty years of custody. However, the district attorney said that when Ashby is eligible for parole he will be evaluated as a sexually violent predator, and if found to so, would spend up to the rest of his life in a state hospital.

