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BERRY CREEK MAN FOUND GUILTY OF SEXUAL ACTS ON MINORS

Friday, a Butte County jury convicted a Berry Creek man of Attempted Forcible Rape of a Minor, Forcible Rape of a Minor, Lewd Acts on a Minor, and Annoying or Molesting a Child, for offenses committed in Berry Creek between 2017-2019 against three different girls—ages six, eleven, and fourteen.

Jurors sat through two weeks of evidence and deliberated Friday afternoon before finding Andrew Thomas Hrenko, 42, of Berry Creek, guilty on all charges.

The trial prosecutor, Deputy District Attorney Leah Sears said that one of the girls, now sixteen years old, took the stand and courageously confronted her abuser. Sears said another victim, now eight years old, also bravely took the stand to testify about what Hrenko did to her.

Hrenko had been previously acquitted by an Alameda County jury for lewd acts on a different victim in 2014.

District Attorney Mike Ramsey praised the twelve deliberating jurors and one alternate juror for sitting through two weeks of emotional and difficult evidence related to sexual acts with children. Ramsey noted: “It is commendable the jurors, our office, and the Butte County Superior Court were able to facilitate justice for the victims of these crimes, even in the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic. Butte County residents have been resilient in doing their civic duty in the midst of challenging and uncertain times.”

Hrenko remains in custody with no bail. He will appear on March 3, 2021 at 9:30 a.m. for sentencing. He faces a maximum exposure of 20 years and 6 months in state prison.

