



OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY
COUNTY OF TULARE

Tim Ward, *District Attorney*

PRESS RELEASE

2/15/17

**PIXLEY MAN FOUND GUILTY OF FORCIBLE MOLESTATION OF A
CHILD UNDER 14**

On February 14, 2017, a Tulare County jury found Aurelio Moreno Figueroa, age 31, of Pixley, guilty of two counts of forcible lewd acts on a child under fourteen with the special allegation of tying and binding, three counts of lewd acts on a child under fourteen and one count of attempting to dissuade a witness. Before the trial commenced, he pleaded to one count of violating a restraining order which was issued in the criminal case.

The trial began on February 7, 2017, in the Tulare County Superior Court, Visalia Division, with the Honorable Judge Joseph Kalashian presiding. Figueroa committed the sexual assaults against a single victim. The crimes occurred on separate occasions between 2014 and 2016 in Tulare County. All five sexual assault convictions qualify as violent felonies under the law.

Sentencing is set for March 10, 2017, in Department 5 of the Tulare County Superior Court, Visalia Division. Aurelio Figueroa faces approximately 40 years to life in state prison and will be required to register as a sex offender for the remainder of his life. He will also have five separate strike priors on his criminal record.

The case was prosecuted by Senior Deputy District Attorney Stacy Plantier of the Crimes against Children Division. It was investigated by Sergeant Jesse Cox of the Tulare County Sheriff's Office.

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