

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY COUNTY OF TULARE

Tim Ward, District Attorney

PRESS RELEASE

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SEX OFFENDER SENTENCED TO 480 YEARS-TO-LIFE IN PRISON

Today in Department 5 of the Tulare County Superior Court in Visalia, Tyrone Williams, age 46, a transient in the Visalia area, was sentenced to 480 years-to-life in prison for rape and child molestation against three separate female victims, two of which were under the age of 14.

On September 24, 2020, Williams was convicted of the following charges:

<u>Minor Victim #1</u> - three felony counts of lewd act on a child under 14. The crimes occurred from May 2014 to October 2015.

<u>Minor Victim #2</u> - two felony counts of lewd act on a child under 14 and one count of sodomy of a person under 14. The crimes occurred on April 1, 2020.

<u>Adult Victim</u> - one felony count of forcible rape. The crime occurred after midnight on August 26, 2019, at a park on Mooney Blvd. in the city of Visalia. Williams was identified using DNA and was subsequently identified by the victim.

In addition, he was convicted of special allegations for multiple victims, having prior convictions, and being a habitual sexual offender.

In 1995 in Monterey County, Williams was convicted of two counts of forcible rape and four counts of forcible rape in concert. The victim was 16-years-old. Williams served 17 years in prison before being released and registering as a sex offender.

"I applaud the courage of the victims and their families for coming forward and making sure justice was served. The pain wrought by a defendant like this is why I created the Crimes against Children Division," said District Attorney Tim Ward.

The case was prosecuted by Deputy District Attorney Kelly Habroun of the Crimes against Children Division and was investigated by Detective Michael Morgantini of the Visalia Police Department.

Media inquiries can be directed to the Office of the District Attorney, County of Tulare Public Information Officer Stuart Anderson (559) 636-5494