



NEWS RELEASE  
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

REPUBLIC MAN SENTENCED TO TWENTY-FIVE YEARS FOR SEXUAL ABUSE

SPRINGFIELD, Mo. – Greene County Prosecuting Attorney Dan Patterson announces that Richard Douglas Mark, 64, of Republic, Missouri was sentenced to twenty-five years in prison for his convictions for one count of statutory rape in the first degree, one count of statutory sodomy in the first degree, seven counts of child molestation in the second degree, five counts of child molestation in the first degree, two counts of enticement of a child, and two counts of sexual exploitation of a minor.

The defendant's crimes involved four separate victims. All of the victims were under fourteen at the time of the abuse. In addition to the fact that all four victims disclosed multiple acts of abuse spanning months, law enforcement discovered corroborating video evidence of the abuse created by the defendant, child pornography and searches for child pornography on the defendant's computers. The defendant was a known, trusted adult in each of the victims' lives. Each of the victims did not initially tell anyone about the abuse because they were afraid of the defendant and because they felt guilt and shame for what was happening to them. They also explained they also did not realize that the abuse was wrong because the defendant was someone they trusted and the abuse happened all the time.

The Honorable David Jones sentenced the defendant on October 23, 2020 following the defendant's pleas of guilty to the eighteen separate charges encompassing all four victims. He will be transported to the Department of Corrections to serve his sentence and will be required to register as a sex offender and wear a GPS monitor for the rest of his life.

**This case is being prosecuted by Assistant Prosecuting Attorney Stephanie Wan. It was investigated by the Republic Police Department and Detective Angela Looney was the lead investigator assigned to the case.**

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