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## NEWS RELEASE

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**July 2, 2010**

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District Attorney Paul Gallegos announced today that on July 2, 2010 in Humboldt Superior Court a jury convicted Eric Darrell Schwenk, 45, of two felony violations of Lewd and Lascivious Acts on a child under 14 years of age. The trial began June 14 and was presided over by Judge Timothy P. Cissna.

Mr. Schwenk is scheduled to be sentenced on August 2, 2010. He is facing a prison term which could exceed 20 years.

In August of 2008 the Humboldt County Sheriff's Office was contacted by a mandatory reporter, who reported that Mr. Schwenk may have molested on a 10 year old boy.

Deputies contacted the minor victim, who worked with investigators on the Child Abuse Services Team (CAST) and described 2 separate incidents which occurred in the year 2002. The victim was able to describe the incidents with specificity.

Additionally, Mr. Schwenk has a prior conviction in 1995 for Lewd and Lascivious Acts on a child under age 14, under circumstances strikingly similar to those described by the minor in 2008.

The case was prosecuted by Deputy District Attorney Elan Firpo.