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**DATE: JULY 28, 2011**

**NELSON FOUND GUILTY BY CHRISTIAN COUNTY JURY**

On Wednesday, July 27, 2011, in Ozark, Missouri, Robert David Nelson (d/o/b 6/22/1965) was found guilty by a Christian County jury of attempted statutory sodomy in the first degree, statutory rape in the first degree, two (2) counts of child molestation in the first degree, and two (2) counts of sexual misconduct with a child by indecent exposure. The nine-woman, three-man jury deliberated for just under two (2) hours before arriving at the unanimous guilty verdicts on all charges. Nelson represented himself during the jury trial.

The charges stemmed from allegations that Nelson sexually abused two (2) young girls, ages 4 and 7, in his home in Kisse Mills, Taney County, Missouri, from May 2008 through the end of June 2008. A child abuse hotline call prompted an investigation that led to Nelson's home, where he was found to be alone with three (3) children who were not his. Nelson had been given power of attorney by the children's mother so that Nelson could care for the children while their mother was serving a prison sentence. It was during the six (6) weeks Nelson cared for the children alone that the bulk of the sexual assaults were alleged to have occurred.

Nelson was already on the Taney County sex offender registry before being left with the victims and their sibling in 2008. Nelson was also convicted of two (2) counts of child molestation in the first degree after a jury verdict from Christian County on October 1, 2010. Nelson is currently serving a twenty (20) year prison sentence from that guilty verdict.

Judge John Moody presided over the jury trial in Ozark. Judge Moody set sentencing for September 30, 2011, at 1:30 p.m. in the Circuit Court of Christian County, Missouri.

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