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Press Release - For Immediate Release

Defendant's Name:	Steven Rollison
Age:	65
City and State of residence:	Jefferson, SD
Criminal File Number:	16-337
Incident Date:	October 1, 2014 through August 31, 2015
Arraignment Hearing:	December 7, 2015
Original Charges:	Ct.1: 1 st Degree Rape, SDCL 22-22-1(1), Class C felony Ct.2A: 1 st Degree Rape, SDCL 22-22-1(1), Class C felony Ct.2B: Sexual Contact w/ Child Under Sixteen, SDCL 22-22-7 (F3) Ct.3A: 1 st Degree Rape, SDCL 22-22-1(1), Class C felony Ct.3B: Sexual Contact w/ Child Under Sixteen, SDCL 22-22-7 (F3) Ct.4: Sexual Contact w/ Child Under Sixteen, SDCL 22-22-7 (F3)
Superseding Information Date:	May 17, 2016
Plea Agreement Charge:	Ct. 1: Sexual Exploitation of a Minor, 22-22-24.3(2), (F6)
Change of Plea Date:	June 9, 2016
Date of Sentencing:	September 26, 2016
Convicted of:	Ct. 1: Sexual Exploitation of a Minor, 22-22-24.3(2), (F6)
Victim:	A 5-year-old and a 6-year-old female
Defense Attorney:	Andrew Twinamatsiko
Prosecuting Attorney:	Jerry Miller

Case Synopsis:

Steven Rollison's case involves a 5-year-old girl and a 6-year-old girl, both of which frequented the Rollison's residence. One child was a granddaughter and the other female child was being watched as part of a daycare program run out of the residence by Steven Rollison's wife. Both victims reported being exposed to pornography by Rollison. Each testified that they were molested individually and encouraged to perform acts on Rollison as well as being directed to perform acts on each other in front of Rollison. Both victims were forensic interview by Mercy's Child Advocacy Center and later by law enforcement. Rollison's history included a previous allegation of molesting a child of which he was acquitted of. The investigation into this file resulted in the disclosure by a daughter of Rollison who stated to law enforcement and confirmed that she too had been molested by her father as a child, a crime that has passed the statute of limitation from prosecution.

Both the families of children victims originally advised the State that they did not want their children to testify if a resolution to the case could be found. The State's Attorney's office conferred with victim's parents in which we reached an agreement to the class 6 felony offense of Sexual Exploitation of a Minor that was also agreeable to the Steven Rollison and his attorney. The agreement specifically addressed that the one charge would include language that Steven

Rollison sexually exploited both the child victims and additionally, that Steven Rollison had to admit, in his factual basis for the charge, that he did sexually exploit both children.

After Steven Rollison entered a guilty plea to the charge of Sexual Exploitation of a Minor, the State was advised that he was considering withdrawing his guilty plea and wanted to take his chance at trial. When the victims' families were told out about Rollison's position, the families advised the State that should Steven Rollison withdraw his guilty plea the victims' families would support the State's efforts to go to trial and would further support their children through the court process including any issues going to trial and testifying. Additionally, Steven Rollison's daughter that had come forward and asserted that she too was willing to testify about prior consistent acts of molestation. Faced with the possibility of a trial and the original charges being brought back with the resolve of the victims' and the victims' families, Steven Rollison did not withdraw his plea and was sentenced on September 26, 2016.

Sentencing Synopsis:

On September 26, 2016, the Court sentenced Steven Rollison to a suspended two-year sentence to the South Dakota State Penitentiary with a term and condition of supervised probation for fifteen years. The Court further ordered that Rollison serve one hundred and eighty days in the South Dakota Penitentiary which was to begin on October 3, 2016 at 9:00 a.m., which is the time that he was to have his affairs in order and report to the Union County Jail to be transported to the penitentiary. Rollison was ordered to complete the sex offender treatment programs and polygraphs as a term of his probation, and for the next fifteen years, Rollison shall not have any contact with any person under the age of eighteen. The Court further ordered that Rollison pay \$104.00 in Court Costs; Prosecution Costs in the amount of Three Thousand Nine Hundred and Eight-Seven Dollars and fifty cents (\$3,987.50); and restitution to be remitted to the DSS Victims' Services, 700 Governors Drive, Pierre, SD 57501-2291 in the amount of One Thousand Four Hundred and Twenty Dollars and twelve cents (\$1,420.12); and One Thousand Five Hundred and Forty-Five Dollars and sixty cents (\$1,545.60) in Court-Appointed Attorney Fees.

Criminal History:

This is Steven Rollison's first career felony conviction.