



COUNTY OF FRESNO

Lisa A. Smittcamp
District Attorney

NEWS RELEASE FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE November 14, 2017

HERBERT DEON GOODWIN JR. SENTENCED TO 36 YEARS-TO-LIFE IN PRISON FOR THE HUMAN TRAFFICKING OF AN ADULT VICTIM AND A 17-YEAR-OLD MINOR VICTIM

Today, Herbert Deon Goodwin Jr. was sentenced to thirty six (36) years-to-life in prison after being convicted of multiple counts related to the human trafficking of an adult victim and a 17-year-old female minor victim.

On September 24, 2015, Herbert Goodwin Jr. was placed on parole for a prior conviction of pimping a minor under the age of 16. He was required to meet with his parole agent, attend classes for sexual offenders and have all his movements tracked by an attached GPS device. However, within three months of his release from prison he manipulated and forced his adult victim to engage in forced sex acts for his financial benefit. His physical attacks on her were numerous, brutal and resulted in permanent injury. She felt she had no choice but to comply. Ultimately, she was able to escape when he left her alone in a motel room. However, this did not stop him from preying on vulnerable women. Within a week he found the minor victim, a special needs runaway from a group home and forced her into prostitution. She was able to contact law enforcement via the Human Trafficking Hotline and was rescued. When found, the minor was scantily clad in front a motel and was visibly shaken and afraid for her life. Mr. Goodwin was arrested and transported to Fresno County Jail and charged with multiple counts of Human Trafficking.

On October 13th, a Fresno County jury convicted the defendant of:

- 1.) Human Trafficking of a Minor for a Sex Act Involving Force, Fear, Fraud, Deceit, Coercion, Violence, Duress, Menace, or Threat of Unlawful Injury [Penal Code § 236.1(c)(2)];
- 2.) Human Trafficking of a Minor for a Sex Act [Penal Code § 236.1(c)(1)];
- 3.) Pimping of a Minor [Penal Code § 266h(b)(1)];
- 4.) Pandering by Encouraging a Minor over Age 16 [Penal Code § 266i(b)(1)];
- 5.) Pimping [Penal Code § 266h(a)];
- 6.) Pandering by Encouraging [Penal Code § 266i(a)(2)]; and
- 7.) Human Trafficking to Commit Another Crime [Penal Code § 236.1(b)].

Today the Honorable Edward Sarkisian sentenced the defendant to 36 years-to-life in custody at the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation.

The Media may email FCDAMedia@co.fresno.ca.us or contact Administrative Assistant Leslie Gillespie at (559) 600-4442 with questions.

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