



APRIL

Child Abuse Prevention Month

COUNTY OF FRESNO

**Lisa A. Smittcamp
District Attorney**

NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

April 27, 2017

PAUL JOHNSON SENTENCED TO LIFE IN PRISON FOR 2012 MURDER

Today, April 27, 2017, Paul Johnson (50, of Fresno) was sentenced for the 2012 murder of Arthur McKown.

On January 25, 2012, Paul Johnson used a knife to stab Arthur McKown about the neck and face, killing him. Mr. Johnson inflicted 39 stab wounds and 11 incised (cutting) wounds on Mr. McKown, resulting in his death.

On March 21, 2017, a jury found Mr. Johnson guilty of Second Degree Murder. Mr. Johnson also has a previous "strike" conviction for Criminal Threats in 2001.

Today, the Honorable Judge Tim Kams sentenced Mr. Johnson to a term of 31 years to life in custody at the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation.

However, upon reaching the age of 60 and after serving 25 years, Mr. Johnson will be eligible for release under the Elderly Parole program.

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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