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**PRESS RELEASE**

**\*\*\*FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE\*\*\***

Date: March 16, 2022

Contact: Angelica Lozano

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**Merced County Jury Convicts Neal Brown-Mace for Sexually Abusing Two Children**

On Tuesday, March 15, 2022, a Merced County Jury returned guilty and true verdicts on all charged offenses against Neal Brown-Mace of Merced, California. Mr. Brown-Mace was found by the jury to have sexually abused two immediate family members.

In November of 2019, Confidential Victim 1, disclosed to a teacher that Mr. Brown-Mace had made the confidential victim orally copulate him when she was about five years old. Another victim came forward upon hearing the disclosure of Confidential Victim 1. Confidential Victim 2, disclosed Mr. Brown-Mace had forced her to orally copulate him on multiple occasions. In a subsequent interview, Confidential Victim 2 disclosed, they had been sodomized by the defendant on multiple occasions. Both victims were under the age of 10 when they were sexually abused.

During the trial, the jurors heard from both victims who testified about the sexual abuse they had endured from Mr. Brown-Mace. They also heard testimony from Detective Jasso from the Merced Police Department who was the lead detective on the case. In the end, Mr. Brown Mace was convicted of two counts of oral copulation with a child under the age of 10, a violation of Penal Code 288.7 (b) and one count of sodomy with a child under the age of 10, a violation of Penal Code 288.7 (a).

Mr. Brown-Mace will be sentenced by Merced County Superior Court Judge Carol Ash on May 6, 2022. He faces a possible 55 years to life in the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation. The case was prosecuted by Deputy District Attorney Angelica Lozano.