



# CRIMINAL CASE UPDATE

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## JUDGE ORDERS MAN TO STAND TRIAL ON 59 COUNTS OF SEXUAL ASSAULT

INDIO – Today, May 18, 2010, the Honorable Judge Richard A. Erwood ruled a La Quinta man must stand trial on 59 counts of sexual assault against a female relative from 1990 to 1994.

Donald Joseph Monplaisir, DOB: 06/11/55, first sexually assaulted the victim when she was 11 years old in 1987. The abuse began to occur consistently when the victim was sent to live with Monplaisir in his home in La Quinta. Monplaisir told the victim that he was teaching her about sex and that it was normal for relatives to have sexual intercourse. The victim reported the sexual assault but was not initially believed by other family members. Monplaisir also told the victim that he would commit suicide if she ever revealed the sexual abuse.

The sexual abuse was reported to law enforcement on February 9, 2009, and Monplaisir was charged with 59 counts of sexual assault one month later on March 10<sup>th</sup>.

The case, INF064806, is being prosecuted by Deputy District Attorney Kristi Belcher of the Sexual Assault and Child Abuse Unit.

Monplaisir is next scheduled to appear in court at 8:30 a.m. on June 1, 2010, in Dept. 3S of the Larson Justice Center in Indio.

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