



OFFICE of the DISTRICT ATTORNEY

**David Hollister, District Attorney**

520 Main Street, Room 404

Quincy California 95971

(530) 283-6303 • Fax (530) 283-6340

## **Criminal Case Update #1 - 2018**

### **July 2018**

Thank you all for your support and efforts in making Plumas County a safe and just place to live, work and play.

I continue to be grateful for the efforts of local law enforcement to ensure Plumas County maintains the level of safety to which we have grown accustomed. To this end, and despite some challenges to our resources, the DA's office continues to take the position we will appropriately pursue just results in all classes of crimes, especially those impacting our quality of life. Additionally, we continue to pay sharp attention to domestic violence and crimes against children as the damage they cause can be both far ranging and long lasting.

Below is a sampling of some recent cases in Plumas County to demonstrate efforts by our criminal justice and law enforcement partners to assure your safety and justice in our court system are priorities in Plumas County.

#### People v. Isiah Ammon and Miranda Rivera (F17-00729&731)

On July 20, 2018, Isiah Mack Lee Ammon (age 23 from Portola) and Miranda Ann Rivera (age 22 from Portola) were sentenced to the aggravated term of six years in state prison following their June 8, 2018 conviction for felony child abuse. Ammon and Rivera came into care of Ammon's two year old daughter in late 2017. Within two months the child was dehydrated, malnourished, had bite marks on her face and arm, a broken arm and bruised all over her body. The investigation, led by Deputies Spencer Brubaker and Christie Ross, determined the injuries had been caused by the defendants. While there were many mitigating factors in this case, including the defendants' age, lack of criminal record and sincere remorse, the ongoing injuries perpetrated on this helpless child demanded an aggravated sentence.

#### People v. Jay Westergaard (F18-00286)

On July 20, 2018, Jay Brent Westergaard (age 60 from Quincy) was sentenced to two years state prison following his June 8, 2018 conviction for felony driving under the

*Our mission is to vigorously, fairly and compassionately seek justice every day.*

influence and causing injury. Westergaard was arrested following a February 27, 2018 incident where he rear ended another car causing the driver to suffer whiplash. A subsequent investigation found Westergaard's blood alcohol level to be more than twice the legal limit. I want to thank CHP Officer Reese McAllister for his efforts during this investigation. This has been a very difficult year for DUI (alcohol and drug) offenses in Plumas County. As we all know, our highways and county roads are unforgiving. When alcohol or drugs are added our roads can become very dangerous. Currently we are in the midst of a prosecution of a woman accused of being DUI and killing three people in a crash and are also investigating another DUI where a person was killed.

People v. Tristen Isitt (F17-00714)

On April 20, 2018, Tristen Lee Isitt (age 22 of Greenville) was convicted of committing a lewd act upon a child, a felony. Isitt, on June 1, 2018, was later sentenced to six years in state prison. I want to thank Deputy Jesse Leiss, Detective John Fatheree and the Washoe County Child Advocacy Center for their work during this investigation and prosecution. I also wish to thank the victim and her family for their patience and perseverance during this case. These types of cases are exceptionally difficult on many fronts. I am grateful we are able to secure the assistance from many governmental and non-profit agencies, both in and out of our county, to be able to complete a thorough investigation.

People v. Bron Craghead (F17-00665)

On May 4, 2018, Bron Ray Craghead (age 39 of Quincy) was sentenced to four years in county jail following his December 15, 2017 conviction for transporting methamphetamine. Craghead was stopped on September 20, 2017 for a vehicle code violation and found to be under the influence of a controlled substance. A search incident to arrest found Craghead to be in possession of 86.2 grams of methamphetamine. I want to thank Deputies Jesse Leiss and Jacob Vickrey for their work in this investigation.

People v. Eugene Hunsucker (F18-00418)

On July 27, 2018, Eugene Chesney Hunsucker (age 33 of Oroville) was convicted of forcible rape, a felony. Hunsucker is slated to be sentenced to the aggravated term of eight years in state prison on August 24, 2018. Hunsucker was arrested on May 29, 2018 following an investigation disclosing Hunsucker picked up the victim at a liquor store in Oroville with the promise of giving a ride home to Chico. Instead Hunsucker drove the victim up the Feather River Canyon into Plumas County where he sexually assaulted the victim. I want to extend my appreciation to Deputy Driscoll, Sgt. Steve Peay and his detectives unit as well as the many other officers and first responders who assisted in this investigation. We are very fortunate to live in a place where crimes such as these are rare and equally fortunate to know should such a crime occur local

authorities are able to conduct a quick and thorough investigation leading to a just and successful conclusion.

People v. Kevin Dawson (F17-00869)

On July 27, 2018, Kevin Adam Dawson (age 54 of Reno, Nevada) was convicted of two counts of burglary. Dawson is scheduled to be sentenced on September 14, 2018 when it is expected he will receive the aggravated term of three years and eight months in county jail. Dawson was convicted of engaging in a series of burglaries on sheds and outbuildings in the Johnsville area in late 2017. I want to thank the victims for their patience and support throughout the investigation and prosecution as well as the Plumas County Sheriff's Office detectives division for their efforts in solving these crimes. "Cold" burglaries are among the most difficult crimes to solve and also among the most invasive to the safety of the victim. Despite the challenges, our local law enforcement does an outstanding job in pursuing these investigations.

**Cases of Interest**

There are a number of upcoming cases of interest. Some include:

People v. Karen Schwamb (triple homicide DUI incident on Hwy 70; 8/31/18 Pretrial Conference)

**Thank you, again for your support and efforts. Should you have any questions or comments please do not hesitate to contact me at the DA's Office.**

**Respectfully yours,**

**David Hollister**

**District Attorney**

Distribution:

√Plumas County Chiefs	PCSO Jail
PCSO Quincy	CHP Quincy
PCSO Chester	CHP Chester
PCSO Greenville	CHP Portola
PCSO Portola	Calif. Dept. of Fish and Game
Probation	USDA Forest Service LEO
	√Feather River Bulletin