

Defendant Sentenced for Child Sexual Assaults Stemming from Use of Social Media



Sacramento County
District Attorney's Office
Semper Justitia

DATE: December 12, 2018

CASE: Chris Cote (Case #16FE021377)

PROSECUTOR: Deputy District Attorney Bruce Chang, Cyber Crimes Unit

The Honorable Jaime Román sentenced Chris Cote to 32 years and 4 months in prison. On October 15, 2018, Cote pled no contest to 23 sexual offenses committed against seven victims, including lewd and lascivious conduct with a child under 14 years of age, lewd and lascivious conduct with a child over 14 years of age, unlawful intercourse with a child under 18 years old and oral copulation of a minor under 16 years of age.

Starting in 2011, Cote used social media to contact minors all over Northern California. He represented himself as a teenage boy, engaged in grooming behavior and arranged sexual encounters with multiple children. In several cases, he encouraged the victims to sneak out of their house to meet with him and then drove them to either a hotel room or back to his house to commit the sexual crimes.