



COUNTY OF YOLO
OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY
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26 Year Old Man Sentenced to 8 Years Prison for Rape

(Woodland, CA) Yolo County District Attorney Jeff Reisig announced today that on Thursday May 28, 2009, Yolo County Superior Court Judge David Rosenberg sentenced 26 year old Robert Mistler, Jr. of West Sacramento to eight years in state prison for rape and first degree burglary. Mistler had been on probation for prior convictions of domestic violence and battery on a police officer.

On October 2, 2004, at 4:30 a.m., Mistler went to the victim's home in West Sacramento. He entered her bedroom and raped her while she was asleep. On May 23, 2008, the jury convicted Mistler of Rape and 1st Degree Burglary.

More than a year passed before Mistler was sentenced due to delays caused by the defendant's vigorous efforts to get a new trial. After reviewing hundreds of pages of motions from the defendant and responses from the prosecution, Judge Rosenberg denied Mistler's New Trial Motion and sentenced him to prison stating, "The victim was particularly vulnerable—she was at home, in her own bed, and asleep and unconscious. At some point it must end, and that day is today."

With a courtroom packed with family members of both the victim and defendant, the victim read a 3 page statement to the court while quietly sobbing. She said, "My life has changed significantly due to his actions. I have fears about my safety, things that never crossed my mind before. I was raped while sleeping in my own bed. I need the trial to end. I need it to end today."

Yolo County Assistant Chief Deputy District Attorney Jonathan Raven prosecuted the case. Raven stated, "This was a tortured process. The victim was raped by the defendant and then victimized again by the system. However, in the end, justice prevailed. She can now start what will prove to be a lifelong journey to self-healing."

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