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OFFICE OF **STATE ATTORNEY** FIRST JUDICIAL CIRCUIT OF FLORIDA

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## PRESS RELEASE

William Eddins, State Attorney for the First Judicial Circuit, announced today Rafael Jacob Stoffel has been convicted of Lewd or Lascivious Molestation of a victim under 12 years of age. An Okaloosa County Jury convicted Stoffel on Tuesday after a 1 day trial. He was remanded to the Okaloosa County Jail at that time.

The charges arose from an incident which occurred on June 22, 2014 when Stoffel grabbed and squeezed the breasts of a 9 year old child while at a movie theater in Destin. During the molestation, the defendant made a statement that the victim was getting big and becoming a grown woman" and asked the child if she liked it.

Sentencing has been scheduled for September 22, 2015 before Circuit Judge William F. Stone. Stoffel faces a minimum mandatory sentence of 25 years up to Life in prison. He will qualify for designation as a Sexual Predator.

Assistant State Attorney Christine Bosau was responsible for the prosecution. The investigation was done by the Okaloosa County Sheriff's Office with the assistance of the Children's Advocacy Center personnel.

Any further questions may be directed to Assistant State Attorney Christine Bosau at (850) 833-9237.