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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
June 5, 2018**

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STEVEN WEISSMAN SENTENCED FOR SERIAL MOLESTATIONS

District Attorney Jeffrey S. Rosell announced that Steven Irving Weissman was recently sentenced to 105 years-to-life for molesting 6 children starting in 1997, and ending with his arrest in 2016.

The District Attorney's office sought the maximum punishment which was 180 years-to-life. The Honorable Timothy Volkmann, who handed down a sentence, chose to sentence Mr. Weissman to 105 years to life.

A jury delivered a guilty verdict on September 1, 2016, convicting the defendant of thirteen counts of molesting children, and one count of forcible oral copulation of a child under the age of 10.

For almost 20 years, Weissman lured numerous children into his life to molest them. He used snakes, money, and a promise of a safe home to find his victims. He placed himself at elementary schools, the Boys and Girls Club, Big Brothers and Big Sisters, as a foster parent, and ingratiating himself with children in the neighborhood, all to find new victims. He exploited single mothers, and a child's need for a father. He lied to the parents and the children about his past to make himself appear safe. In the end, all of these children trusted the defendant only to find out in their own way that he was betraying them all along.

The courtroom was filled with victims and family members, and the court listened to their testimony about how Weissman's molestations affected their lives. Each talked about how Weissman shaped their lives as children and made it difficult to become a healthy adult. His actions affected their school work, their friendships with other children, and their relationship with their parents. The parents spoke about the shame of not being able to protect their child, and the regret of the life their child could have had.

Assistant District Attorney Steven Moore said this about the sentence, "For twenty years, the defendant got away with molesting and terrorizing the most vulnerable members of our community - the children. Today that ended. With this sentence, not only will he pay for his actions, but it will also ensure that he will no longer be able to victimize innocent children and their families in the future."