



**OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY
COUNTY OF SOLANO**

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PRESS RELEASE

Release Date: September 2, 2016

Re: People v. Michelle Souza

Today, in Department 4 of the Solano County Superior Court, the Honorable E. Bradley Nelson, sentenced 43 year-old defendant, Michelle Victoria Souza, to a determinate term of 16 years and a consecutive indeterminate term of 25 years to life to be served at the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation.

The defendant had been charged with violating two counts of Penal Code Section 288.7(a), Sex with a Child Age 10 and Under, and and count of Penal Code Section 288.5(a), Continuous Sexual Abuse With a Child Under the Age of 14.

Beginning in December 2013, the defendant forced her 10 year old son to have sexual intercourse with her. The defendant continued to sexually abuse her son until he turned 11 years old, at which time the victim's father found text messages referencing the sexual abuse on his cellular phone. The defendant's conduct was subsequently reported to local authorities.

The defendant testified that she never had sexual intercourse with her son and that she did have inappropriate contact with her son but was forced to do so by her boyfriend. After a two week jury trial, the jury returned a verdict of guilty as to all counts on January 19, 2016.

This case was investigated by Vacaville Police Department Detective Andrew Talton. The case was prosecuted by Deputy District Attorney Mary Nguyen.

