

OFFICE OF THE  
**DISTRICT ATTORNEY**  
COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA  
**JOYCE E. DUDLEY**  
District Attorney



DA 04-100

RELEASE NUMBER

April 5, 2012

RELEASE DATE

APPROVED BY *Joyce E. Dudley* JOYCE E. DUDLEY, DISTRICT ATTORNEY

A. Brooke Gerard, Deputy District Attorney

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\*\*\*\*\* PRESS RELEASE \*\*\*\*\*

April 5, 2012

**Re: People v. Daniel Cruz – Sex Offender Sentenced to 15 Years to Life**

Santa Barbara County District Attorney Joyce E. Dudley announced today that on April 3, 2012, Daniel Cruz, age 41, of Lompoc, California, was sentenced to 15 years to life in prison as a result of his plea to the sexual assault of eight year old "Jane Doe" in November 2011.

On February 28, 2012, the defendant was convicted by plea of a violation of Penal Code section 288.7(b): Oral Copulation or Sexual Penetration of a Child 10 Years of Age or Younger. At the sentencing hearing the child's mother addressed the defendant and spoke of how her daughter is now scared of people, cannot concentrate in school, and gets angry easily. She further described the harsh, disengaged look that has replaced the smile her daughter used to wear. "You destroyed her childhood and her innocence." "Jane Doe's" mother said, "I want that inside that prison you start to believe in God to see if he at least forgives you because mine and my daughter's forgiveness you will never have."

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