



## **CHRISTIAN COUNTY PROSECUTING ATTORNEY'S OFFICE**

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### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**DATE: JANUARY 31, 2018**

**RE: ERIC WYATT SENTENCED TO DEPT. OF CORRECTIONS**

OZARK, MO – The Christian County Prosecuting Attorney's Office announces today that on January 31, 2018, Eric N. Wyatt DOB: 1/8/1975 of Nixa, Missouri, was sentenced by the Honorable Judge Elizabeth Bock to the Missouri Department of Corrections.

The Court had found Wyatt guilty of child molestation in the first degree following a bench trial that was held November 29-30, 2017. Before the bench trial began, Wyatt pled guilty to another count, which was tampering with a motor vehicle in the first degree. The incidents charged occurred in 2014.

At today's hearing, the State requested Wyatt be sentenced to fifteen (15) years in the Missouri Department of Corrections. The defense requested that Wyatt receive probation or 120 days under the Sex Offender Assessment Unit.

The Court sentenced Wyatt to seven (7) years in the Missouri Department of Corrections on the child molestation count and three (3) years on the tampering with a motor vehicle count, said counts to run concurrently. Wyatt was also ordered to pay restitution under 559.105, RSMo. to the victim of the tampering count.

The range of punishment for child molestation in the first degree was five (5) to fifteen (15) years in the Missouri Department of Corrections. The range of punishment for tampering in the first degree was a term of incarceration not to exceed seven (7) years in the Missouri Department of Corrections, and/or a fine not to exceed \$5000.

The case was handled by Senior Assistant Prosecuting Attorney Anna L. Bunch. The case was investigated by the Christian County Sheriff's Office.