

PRESS RELEASE:

Jan. 15, 2026

Office of Leavenworth County Attorney
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Former Tonganoxie resident convicted on more than a dozen child sex crimes

LEAVENWORTH, Kan. --- A 44-year-old former Tonganoxie resident was convicted this week of more than a dozen child sex crimes and is awaiting sentencing.

A Leavenworth County jury on Tuesday, Jan. 13, found David A. Espinoza guilty of 16 felony counts following a two-day trial. Espinoza was charged in a complaint filed May 12, 2025, with 21 crimes involving the same victim.

The jury convicted Espinoza of 12 counts of aggravated indecent liberties with a child and four counts of attempted aggravated indecent liberties with a child. The convictions stem from offenses that occurred between September 2019 and January 2020.

The guilty verdicts include:

- Counts 5 - 10 and 12 - 17: Aggravated indecent liberties with a child
- Counts 18 - 21: Attempted aggravated indecent liberties with a child

The jury was unable to reach a verdict on five counts - three counts of aggravated indecent liberties with a child and two counts of rape.

According to court documents, the female victim reported on May 1, 2023, that she had been sexually abused by Espinoza over a period spanning several years. She told investigators the abuse began when she was about 9 years old and occurred at multiple locations within Leavenworth County.

The investigation involved the Eudora Police Department, Lawrence Police Department, Sunlight Children's Services, and the Tonganoxie Police Department.

"This verdict reflects the courage of the victim in coming forward and the careful work of law enforcement and prosecutors," Leavenworth County Attorney Todd Thompson said. "While no outcome can undo the harm caused, we hope this verdict provides a measure of justice and protection for our community."

The case was prosecuted on behalf of the State of Kansas by county attorneys Chris Lyon and Kirstyn Dvorak.

A sentencing hearing is scheduled for March 13, 2026, at 1 p.m.

