



Contact: Joey Buttitta

Title: Communications Manager/PIO

Phone: (805) 767-3400

Email: Joey.Buttitta@ventura.org

Approved: RMW

Date: March 28, 2024

Release No.: 24-029

## Simi Valley Man Convicted of Stalking and Extorting Former Girlfriend

VENTURA, Calif. – District Attorney Erik Nasarenko announced today that Jason Anthony Arnold (DOB 07/19/71), of Simi Valley, was convicted by a jury of one felony count of stalking, one felony count of extortion by threatening letter, and three misdemeanor counts of distributing private intimate photos.

Following a breakup with the victim in 2019, Arnold began to stalk and threaten her for several months between November 2019 and March 2020. He demanded approximately \$54,000 from the victim and distributed nude photographs of her when she did not pay. The photographs were sent to the victim's mother, brother, her new boyfriend, and were posted around her business and around her new boyfriend's apartment complex. A sex advertisement accompanied the photos, along with the victim's home address, business address, and personal cellphone number. The victim obtained a domestic violence restraining order, but Arnold continued to text, email, and harass her.

Deputy District Attorney Tessa McCarty, a member of the Ventura County District Attorney's Office Domestic Violence Unit, prosecuted the case.

"The victim was subjected to the defendant's obsessive and vindictive stalking behavior for far too long," Ms. McCarty said. "It is my hope that these convictions provide her with the closure she deserves."

Arnold is scheduled to be sentenced on April 25, 2024, at 9:00 a.m. in courtroom 27 of the Ventura County Superior Court. He faces a maximum prison sentence of 3 years 8 months. After the verdict, he was remanded into custody at the Ventura County Jail.

Case: 2023029743

## **Defendant Information:**

Jason Anthony Arnold (DOB 07/19/71) Simi Valley

## Convicted of:

- PC 646.9(a) Stalking
- PC 523 Threatening letter for extortion
- (3 counts) PC 647(j)(4)(A) Distribute private intimate photos

