



ERIK NASARENKO

VENTURA COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY

NEWS RELEASE



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Approved: SW
Date: July 17, 2025
Release No.: 25-089

Bakersfield Man Convicted of Child Molestation

VENTURA, Calif. – Ventura County District Attorney Erik Nasarenko announced today that Fabian Manzo (DOB 03/30/00), of Bakersfield, was convicted by a jury this week of eight felony counts of child molestation. The jury found Manzo guilty of five counts of lewd acts upon a child, one count of penetration with a child under 14 years, one count of attempted forcible lewd act upon a child, and one count of forcible lewd act upon a child. Manzo was also convicted of one lesser-included charge for simple battery. Several special allegations and aggravating factors were found true, including that Manzo committed substantial sexual conduct, took advantage of a position of trust, and that the victim was vulnerable.

In the fall of 2019, Manzo was renting a room at a home in Oxnard. The victim, 12 years old at the time, was living at the home with her family. Over the two-month period when Manzo lived at the residence, he engaged in a romantic and sexual relationship with the victim. Manzo began grooming the victim by tickling her and engaging in roughhousing. Those grooming tactics led to kissing, touching, and other sexual acts. When the victim questioned Manzo about knowing her age, he told her “age is just a number.”

Deputy District Attorney Julia McAndrew, a member of the Ventura County District Attorney’s Office Sexual Assault Unit, prosecuted the case.

“The victim in this case showed extraordinary strength in coming forward and sharing what she endured,” Ms. McAndrew said. “My hope is that this verdict brings her a sense of closure and the reassurance that she was heard, believed, and supported.”

Manzo is scheduled to be sentenced on September 18, 2025, at 8:30 a.m. in courtroom 45 of the Ventura County Superior Court. He faces a maximum of 39 years 4 months in state prison.

Case: 2023011560

Defendant Information:

Fabian Manzo (DOB 03/30/00)

Bakersfield

Charges convicted of:

- (5 counts) PC 288(a) – Lewd act upon a child
- PC 664/288(b)(1) – Attempted forcible lewd act upon a child
- PC 289(a)(1)(B) – Penetration of genital and anal opening with child under 14 years
- PC 288(b)(1) – Forcible lewd act upon a child
- PC 242 – Simple battery

Special Allegations found true:

- PC 1203.066(a)(8) – Substantial sexual conduct
- CRC 4.421(a)(11) – The defendant took advantage of a position of trust
- CRC 4.421(a)(3) – Victim was vulnerable

