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### **Convicted Child Rapist to Serve a 50 Year Prison Sentence**

(FAIRBANKS, Alaska) – Yesterday evening a plea agreement guaranteed a lengthy prison sentence for a man guilty of repeatedly sexually abusing a child throughout its teenage years. 38-year old Joseph Turney pled guilty to two counts of Sexual Abuse of a Minor in the First Degree and one count of Sexual Assault in the First Degree. Those three counts were consolidated from 20 separate original charges of a similar nature. His sentence calls for a 66-year prison term with 16 years suspended. Following the completion of his prison sentence, Turney is required to be on probation for 15 years and to register as a sex offender for life.

The 20-month long investigation by the Child Abuse Investigation Unit (CAIU) revealed that Turney had sexually assaulted the teen on numerous occasions.

“In nine years with the Troopers, five of which supervising rape, murder and child abuse cases, I have never worked on a case more appalling and egregious than this one,” said Sergeant Dave Willson, supervisor of the Fairbanks CAIU. “The extreme abuse suffered by the victim over the course of approximately seven years would have overwhelmed most people. The facts of this case would move most people to tears.”

Turney was a school bus driver for First Transit. The Fairbanks North Star Borough School District was advised of the investigation shortly after Turney was arrested in January of 2009. The CAIU has no knowledge of any additional victims, but is working closely with the Office of Children's Services in this matter.

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