

Press Release

Richard Becraft, Jr. of Utica was convicted today in Oneida County Court of two counts of Predatory Sexual Assault of a Child; both class A-2 Felonies. The trial began Monday, April 5, 2010 and was held before the Honorable Michael L. Dwyer.

Becraft was represented by John Longaretta, Esq. The People were represented by First Assistant District Attorney Dawn Catera Lupi.

The defendant was convicted of having sexual intercourse and oral sexual contact with a ten year old girl in Kirkland in March of 2007. The case was investigated by Investigator Patrick O'Connor of the Oneida County Child Advocacy Center.

The jury deliberated for approximately two hours before arriving at their verdict. First Assistant District Attorney Lupi said, "I am very pleased with the verdict, and hope that this result can begin to bring closure to the victim and her family".

The defendant will be sentenced on May 11, 2010 and faces a minimum of ten years to life and a maximum of twenty-five years to life on each conviction.