



County of Fresno
Office of the District Attorney
Elizabeth A. Egan, District Attorney

NEWS STATEMENT FROM THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
November 3, 2009

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**DA CHARGES TEEN AS AN ADULT IN SPECIAL
CIRCUMSTANCES MURDER OF TODDLER**

FRESNO, CA – Fresno County District Attorney Elizabeth A. Egan announced today, November 3, 2009, that 14-year-old Raul Renato Castro has been charged with the First Degree Murder of a four-year-old Mendota toddler. Four Special Circumstances associated with this murder have been alleged: murder during a child molestation, sodomy, kidnapping; and murder of a witness to prevent testimony.

Castro also faces separate felony charges of kidnapping, sodomy and child molestation.

Under California law, a fourteen-year-old is not eligible for the Death Penalty or a sentence of Life-Without-the-Possibility of Parole.

The maximum penalty for the crimes charged against Castro is 32 years to Life plus 15 years.

Castro will be arraigned tomorrow morning, November 4, 2009, in Fresno County Superior Court at 8:30 a.m. in Department 32.

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