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## **AG Balderas Keeps Convicted Child Trafficker Behind Bars**

### *Supreme Court Denies Defendant's Petition for Review, Defendant's 49-year Sentence is Final*

*Albuquerque, NM* – Today, Attorney General Hector Balderas announced that Sharoski Jackson, the man convicted of trafficking a child in 2013, will remain behind bars. The Supreme Court of New Mexico today denied Jackson's petition for review. Previously, the New Mexico Court of Appeals upheld Jackson's conviction for human trafficking and other crimes.

"Individuals who prey on vulnerable children must be held accountable for their horrific acts," said Attorney General Hector Balderas. "We will continue to legally fight to protect innocent children in New Mexico."

The Office of the Attorney General obtained Jackson's conviction on five felony counts including human trafficking, and promoting prostitution, and the defendant was sentenced to 49 years' imprisonment in January of 2015.

Special Agents and Prosecutors with the Office of the Attorney General's Office fought hard to obtain this conviction against Jackson, who trafficked a child in Albuquerque. The Criminal Appeals Division of the OAG successfully argued to the New Mexico Court of Appeals that Jackson's convictions for human trafficking and other crimes should be affirmed. Today, the New Mexico Supreme Court issued an order declining to review the Court of Appeals' opinion. Therefore, the Court of Appeals' opinion affirming all Jackson's convictions and his 49-year sentence imposed remains intact. A photograph of Jackson is attached below.

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