



**MEDIA CONTACT:**

Tom Mustin  
Media Relations Director  
23<sup>rd</sup> Judicial District Attorney's Office  
Cell: 303-358-9375  
tmustin@coda23.gov

**For Immediate Release:  
April 3rd, 2026**

# **Another Douglas County Teacher Sentenced to Jail for Sexual Exploitation of a Child**

**Douglas County, CO** –A 57-year-old former psychology teacher at Douglas County High School has been sentenced to 300 days in jail after having sexual contact with a 17-year-old student.

James Christopher Thomure pleaded guilty to one count each of sexual exploitation of a child and child abuse. The charges stem from an incident that occurred May 27, 2024, inside a classroom at Douglas County High School.

Thomure had been proctoring an exam for three students. After two students completed their exams and left the room, Thomure remained alone with the victim. Following a brief conversation, Thomure groped the student and attempted to kiss her, telling her how beautiful she was and how he would like to “do things to her.” He also suggested they meet at the park over the summer and engage in sexual activity. He later drove her to her car.

The victim reported the incident to a trusted adult who contacted the Douglas County Sheriff's Office. Detectives corroborated the student's account using classroom surveillance video.

In court, the victim became emotional talking about the incident. “The experience has stayed with me for years. I am proud that I chose to stand with myself, and with others who have spoken out, who are afraid to speak out, or are unsure if they should,” she said.

Thomure, a married father of two college-aged children, is no longer employed by the high school. In addition to his jail sentence, he was sentenced to eight years of intensive sex offender probation, as part of a plea agreement.

“This man violated the trust placed in him as an educator and caused lasting harm to a young victim,” said Chief Deputy District Attorney Danielle Jaramillo. “Our office will continue to hold accountable those who exploit and prey on children.”

Douglas County Sheriff Darren Weekly County praised the victim’s courage and the work of investigators. “The betrayal of trust by an educator is a profound violation that we do not take lightly,” said Weekly. “I want to personally thank our Special Victims Unit for their meticulous investigation, and the District Attorney’s Office for their commitment to holding the defendant accountable. Most importantly, I want to commend the incredible courage of the victim: it is their bravery in coming forward that ensures our schools remain a safer place for all students.”

District Attorney George Brauchler praised the judge for holding Thomure accountable and the courage of the victim. “The victim was courageous, poised, and articulate. So impressive,” said Brauchler. “When someone in a position of authority-like a teacher-abuses that role to target a child to satisfy their own lascivious desires, it is both criminal, creepy, and a profound betrayal,” he added. “Every teacher who has crossed the line in our jurisdiction shares the same three qualities: they are convicted felons, registered sex offenders, and they have been incarcerated

####