

Commonwealth of Virginia

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Aug. 26, 2022
For Immediate Release

ALEXANDRIA MAN SENTENCED TO LIFE IN CHILD RAPE CASE

(Fairfax County, VA) — Commonwealth's Attorney Steve Descano announced today that an Alexandria man was sentenced to four life sentences plus 36 years after being convicted of two counts of rape, four counts of aggravated sexual battery and two counts of object sexual penetration last year.

Elwood Lewis Thomas, 38, preyed on children between the ages of four and eight years old who attended a daycare run by a family member.

"We asked that Mr. Thomas be sentenced to life in prison because of his abhorrent history of sexually abusing children," CA Descano said. "My thoughts are with these children and their families as they begin the journey of healing."

The allegations of abuse of the three children in this case span several years, between 2006 and 2012. The children disclosed the abuse to an adult in 2019. Thomas had previously been convicted of aggravated sexual battery of a child under 13 in 2013. In that case he was sentenced to eight years in prison, but seven were suspended and he was ordered to serve 20 years on probation.

"I want to thank Assistant Commonwealth's Attorney Katherine Ballou for her hard work on this case," Descano added.

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