



## LOS ANGELES COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE MEDIA RELATIONS DIVISION

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### **Former high school coach sent to prison for molesting teenage girl**

NORWALK – A former Bellflower High School track and girls' basketball coach was sent to state prison for 28 years today for molesting a teenage girl over a five-year span starting when she was 13.

Deputy District Attorney Jessica Tillson said 49-year-old Bryan E. Shepherd was sentenced by Norwalk Superior Court Judge Peter Espinoza. The prosecutor said the sentence was imposed after impact statements were made by the victim, her mother and the victim's boyfriend.

Shepherd pleaded no contest earlier this year to continuous sexual abuse of a child and forcible lewd acts with a child. The 28-year sentence was part of a negotiated settlement of the case.

Since Shepherd objected to restitution, there will be a hearing on that issue on April 23, Tillson said.

Shepherd was charged on Dec. 21, 2011. He has been in custody since this arrest on Dec. 20, 2011, by investigators with the Sheriff's Special Victims Bureau.

Although Shepherd was a high school coach, authorities said the crimes did not occur at the school. The victim was molested from the time she was 13 in 2005 until she was 17 in 2010.

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