



# EFFINGHAM POLICE DEPARTMENT

CHIEF JASON McFARLAND

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## SPECIAL NEWS RELEASE

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**March 2, 2020**

### EFFINGHAM MAN CONVICTED



An Effingham man, Joshua D. Rowlands, 43, was convicted by a jury on Friday, February 28, 2020 on two charges stemming from an incident that occurred in March 2019. Rowlands was found guilty of Predatory Criminal Sexual Assault – Victim Less Than 13 Years Old, a Class X Felony, and Aggravated Criminal Sexual Abuse – Victim Less Than 13 Years Old, a Class 2 Felony. The jury trial was held on February 27<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> at the Effingham County Government Center.

We'd like to commend State's Attorney Bryan Kibler and his office for their diligence in prosecuting this case. Rowlands' sentencing hearing is scheduled for May 4, 2020 at 1:00 P.M., where he faces 6 years to 60 years imprisonment for the Class X Felony and 3 years to 7 years imprisonment for the Class 2 Felony.

*If you see it, say it! The Effingham Police Department encourages you to call the Police Department immediately at 217-347-0774 to report suspicious activity in your neighborhood or business district. Information can be given anonymously by calling the CRIME STOPPERS Tip Line at 217-347-6583. Anonymous callers can receive up to \$1,000 cash rewards.*