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ATTORNEY GENERAL RAOUL: CONVICTED SEX OFFENDER RULED SEXUALLY VIOLENT

Chicago — Attorney General Kwame Raoul today announced that a Kane County judge has found that a registered sex offender is a Sexually Violent Person (SVP).

Following the verdict, Kane County Circuit Court Judge Alice Tracy ordered Kerby Ford, 57, to remain in the custody of the Illinois Department of Human Services (IDHS) for treatment. Ford will be returned to the IDHS SVP Treatment and Detention Facility in Rushville, Illinois.

"This offender has repeatedly abused children left in his care and demonstrated he poses a significant risk to children and cannot be released into the community," Raoul said. "I am pleased with the judge's decision, which will help prevent him from being able to harm other children."

In 2008, Ford was sentenced to four years in prison after pleading guilty to sexually abusing a 13-year-old girl. At the time, Ford worked in the restaurant owned by the victim's uncle. Previously in 1993, Ford was sentenced to nine years in prison for sexually assaulting two girls, an 8-year-old and a 9-year-old, he was babysitting in Cook County. Also in 1993, Ford was sentenced to nine years in prison for sexually assaulting two girls under the age of 13 while he was babysitting them in Kane County in 1989.

Under the Sexually Violent Persons Commitment Act, Raoul's office prosecutes cases seeking to commit offenders to the custody of IDHS. To be committed under the act, a person must have been convicted of a sexually violent offense and suffer from a mental disorder. Prosecutors must also prove that the offender is likely to commit future acts of sexual violence if released from custody. Once committed to IDHS, offenders are re-evaluated on a regular basis to determine if they continue to meet the criteria for commitment as a sexually violent person.

Assistant Attorneys General David Kalicki and Alexander Glenn handled the case for Raoul's Sexually Violent Persons Bureau.