

NATIONAL**AIDS carrier
sentenced in
rape of child**

Associated Press

RIVERSIDE, Calif. — A man charged with raping his wife's 7-year-old daughter at his wedding reception and passing on the virus that causes AIDS has been sentenced to 38 years in prison.

Frank C. Bridges, 43, pleaded guilty Tuesday to felony rape, sexual penetration with a foreign object and three counts of forced lewd acts with a child. The charges included special allegations of inflicting great bodily injury and committing a sex offense while knowingly infected with AIDS.

Bridges, a former county juvenile probation officer, was immediately sentenced by Riverside Superior Court Judge W. Charles Morgan.

Bridges was accused of raping the child Jan. 15 in the Canyon Crest home where he had exchanged wedding vows with the victim's mother earlier in the day. The 37-year-old mother faces trial next month on charges of felony child endangerment and being an accessory after the fact.

A month later, the child tested positive for the human immunodeficiency virus. Deputy District Attorney Tim Schaaf said the girl is living with relatives in the Midwest and has not been told she is infected.