

News Release

For Immediate Release
June 18, 2010

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Berkeley County Judge sentences Tommy Flack

Moncks Corner, S.C. – Berkeley County Judge R. Markley Dennis, Jr. sentenced Tommy "Tom" Flack (DOB 7/21/1951) to 20 years on each of the three (3) counts of Criminal Sexual Conduct with a Minor in the Second degree (CSC 2nd) and ten (10) years on each of the three (3) counts of Lewd Act Upon a Minor. The sentences will run concurrently and were the maximum sentences allowed for each offense.

Ninth Judicial Circuit Solicitor Scarlett A. Wilson noted that, "Tommy Flack, and those like him are the reason it is so important for us to have a Special Victim's Unit here in the Ninth Circuit. It takes dedication and expertise to work with victims who have been damaged by years of abuse and who have been taught to feel shame. These convictions validate the victims' trust and hopefully will send a strong message to those who prey on vulnerable children."

The allegations against Tommy Flack arose when a young man told Berkeley County Sheriff's Office (BCSO) detectives in July of 2006 that he had been sexually abused by Flack. He gave information about other victims.

The case was subsequently referred to Sergeant Geno Alteri of BCSO who investigated the case and found five other victims of Flack's sexual abuse. The allegations involved lewd acts and sexual assaults between 1975 and 1984. Flack was the Minister of Music at the First Baptist Church of Goose Creek and led a youth singing group called "The Deacons."

Many of the victim's who came forward were singers with Flack's singing group. Others were young boys that Flack befriended. The incidents occurred both in Flack's home and as the group traveled throughout the United States.

"While it is very difficult for any victim of sexual abuse to come forward, experts agree it is even more difficult for men to reveal abuse. It is a testament to their courage that they not only disclosed the abuse, but were willing to move forward and help in our prosecution. Many of these victims spoke at the sentencing hearing," said Managing Assistant Solicitor Debbie Herring-Lash, head of the Ninth Circuit Solicitor's Special Victim's Unit.

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