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MORÉ

MONTHLY ARCHIVES

Man Accused Of Rape, Forcing Teen In Sex Acts Posted Dec 7, 2006 by Clarisa Gerlach Updated Dec 7, 2006 at 12:11 PM

By KEITH MORELLI of The Tampa Tribune

CARROLLWOOD - A Hillsborough County man and former Lakeland police officer, remained in jail today, accused of raping a 15-year-old girl and persuading her to engage in sex acts with her friends while he watched.

David Lee Bishop, 41, 5452 Pentail Circle, was charged with two counts each of sexual battery, committing lewd and lascivious conduct and contributing to the delinquency of a minor and five counts of committing lewd and lascivious battery.

There were five victims, all 15- and 16-year-old girls, said Hillsborough County sheriff's deputies.

The incidents occurred over the past two years, said sheriff's spokeswoman Debbie Carter this morning. During that time, Bishop engaged in sexual acts with a 15-year-old girl that he knew.

Also over that time, he persuaded the teenager to have female friends of hers over where she engaged in sexual behavior with them, as Bishop watched from a closet or from behind a partially closed door, Carter said.

One of the victims told her mother about the incidents and that sparked the investigation, Carter said. From there, deputies learned of the other teenagers involved, she said.

Bishop, who said he was employed as an organ procurer for a local organ and tissue transplant organization, was held in the Orient Road Jail. Bail had not been set Thursday morning.



David Lee Bishop

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He is a former Lakeland police officer who was fired more than a decade ago after he was arrested and later convicted of driving while intoxicated.

Prosecutors at a jury trial successfully argued that Bishop was legally impaired on the night of Jan. 14, 1993 when he got into his car to drive home after drinking beers with fellow officers at a Hooter's after a police league football game.

Bishop refused to take a breath test, because, he later testified, he thought it was unreliable. He was arrested by a fellow Lakeland police officer.

Posted by Kara Smith, tampa, fl 33625 on 12/09 at 11:40 PM

first of all, i know all of the girls who were involved in this, and i know it was none of their faults, nor their parents. i have heard all the stories, and i found out about this last year. one of the victins x-boyfriends went around telling people because he found out and i know how upset she was. this is no lie, as angela thinks, and she ridicules them for not getting along with his step-daughter, when the only reason she doesnt think their telling the truth is because she doesnt like them, and she hasnt even met the man either, i belive hes should be behind bars for the rest of his life.

Send Us Your Comments

Posted by Chris Monte, Tampa on 12/09 at 02:10 PM

How is the system unlawful, when you say it was something he probably didn't do. Do you want your children around someone who probably didn't molest other children? Right now there is probable cause or they wouldn't have arrested him and they would have given him bond. As far as what the mother would let happen in her house how many times have there been similar news stories where one parent/guardian had assaulted the children and the other parent/guardian had no idea what was going on. It is also possible that everything happened while mom was not home, or even at some other place. How can you think this is a girl war to get back at his step-daughter. Comments like that are what makes these girls not want to come forward. There are far easier ways get revenge in high school that don't involve going to the police.

Send Us Your Comments

Posted by Angela Oldfield, Tampa,Fl on 12/09 at 12:22 AM

I know this man's step daughter and i know her mother wouldn't have this in her house. i honestly think those girls are lying. They dont like his step daughter. This is rediculous for him to be in jail for something he probablly didnt do. The system is unlawful. They can't prove he did this. And this whole thing is just a plot to get back at his step daughter. IT'S STUPiD!!!!!!!

Send Us Your Comments

Posted by Richard Haynes, Punta Gorda on 12/08 at 06:41 PM

Yes house arrest, agree lets get serious about law enforcement in this country.

Send Us Your Comments

Posted by Marie doloca, florida on 12/08 at 10:42 AM

The kids have said everything that there needs to be said to the officers, its not like they need to make every detail public! and its not like there just going to keep eveything to themselfs after they already told! and no one was just hanging out with a 41 yr old man.. they were hanging out with his dauther.. he was supposed to be the supervisor!!!

Send Us Your Comments

Posted by Art Pulliam, Town n Country on 12/07 at 11:50 PM

Posted by Brittany Decker, ODESSA on 12/07 at 07:22 PM

ok listen people i know one of the girls who was involved. its a very dramatic thing and dont go by just what that article says theres more to the story TRUST ME!... its not like the girls were just hanging out with a 41 year old man... theres more to it i just cant say...

Right here is a major part of the problem. The kids won't say!

Send Us Your Comments

Posted by Brittany Decker, ODESSA on 12/07 at 08:22 PM