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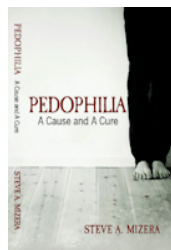

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MONDAY, JUNE 4, 2007

## Former police officer arrested on child molestation charges

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In the original article above, once again, the reporter puts "sex crime" in the title instead of "child molestation". So I took the liberty to do it myself.

06/03/2007

**ROCKLAND** - A Friendship man, who is a former reserve police officer, was arrested Friday for alleged sexual contact with a knife involving a then 9-year-old girl, according to court records.

**Scott L. Bramhall**, 43, of Friendship was booked at 3:45 p.m. Friday at Knox County Jail on one count of sexual contact and one count of sexual touching, according to the jail log. He was released on \$1,000 cash bail at 1:25 a.m. Saturday, according to the jail log.

- Why minimize it? Also add "one count of child molestation", if it occurred once, otherwise there should be more counts added for each encounter.

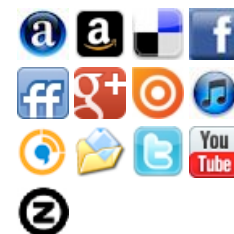
On Thursday, Bramhall was indicted by a Knox County Superior Court grand jury, but the information was kept secret. A secret indictment remains sealed until the accused is arrested.

According to the indictment, Bramhall is charged with one count of unlawful sexual contact with the use of a knife and one count of unlawful sexual touching, also with the use of a knife, during the commission of the offenses.

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The sexual contact charge is a Class A felony and the sexual touching charge is a Class C felony.

- Where is the CHILD MOLESTATION charge?

According to Knox County Superior Court records, the mother of the victim sought a protection from harassment order March 7 against Bramhall, claiming he had physically threatened her 9-year-old daughter around the time of December school vacation. The mother stated in a court document that Bramhall was under investigation at that time for "contact of a sexual nature involving my 9-year-old daughter."

On March 23, Sixth District Court Judge Patricia Worth approved the protection order, ruling that Bramhall had harassed the child. She prohibited Bramhall from any contact with the plaintiff.

The indictment alleges the offenses occurred on or about Jan. 6 in Friendship.

Conditions of Bramhall's bail include no contact with children under age 16 with the exception of his own two children, no contact with the victim, and being prohibited from going to the victim's school or residence. Bramhall is to have no use or possession of alcohol, illegal drugs or dangerous weapons and is subject to random search and testing for the same.

Bramhall is a former reserve police officer for the Damariscotta and Waldoboro police departments and a former Maine School Administrative District 40 truant officer, among other law enforcement affiliations. He was arrested earlier this year in Lincoln County on a sex charge that was later dropped by the district attorney's office.

The February allegation accused Bramhall of unlawful sexual contact Feb. 10 in Waldoboro, involving a 16-year-old boy.

- Yep, sounds like a predator to me!

On March 13, District Attorney Geoffrey Rushlau announced that he would not prosecute that case.

- And why the hell not? To protect a "good ole' boy?"

At that time, Rushlau said, "The prosecution is required to establish compulsion in order to prove a crime under the statute implicated by this investigation. The evidence available at this time does not prove compulsion to the very high standard required in a criminal case. Our decision to decline prosecution must not be interpreted as a statement that the reported sexual conduct was consensual. Our decision instead is a consequence of the process of evaluation for every criminal case, in which the state always carries a very high burden and the accused has no burden at all."

- This is all BS. If this were the average citizen, hearsay alone would be enough to charge the man and have him appear in court on the charge, then prison time.

"As in many investigations this case should not be considered closed finally," said Rushlau in mid-March. "If significant new information becomes available, the case will be reevaluated."

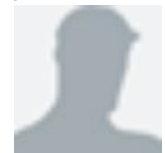
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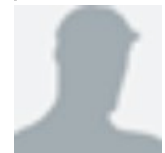
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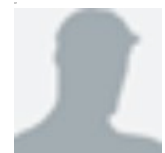
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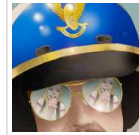
"Our review process included both the original reports and videotaped interviews, and a follow-up meeting with the teenager who reported the event," Rushlau said in a press release. "Based upon the entire review, we conclude that a fact-finder would have a reasonable doubt about the guilt of Scott Bramhall, and the prosecution is therefore declined."

- So he's guilty, why isn't he in prison?

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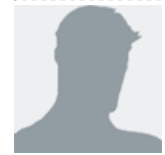
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**Sldkja** • 10 months ago • parent

I also know parties involved in this case and there is MUCH more history involving sexual abuse by Bramhall. All the people who tell about it say they can't come forward because they "have to live in this town". It is interesting that he is continually "slapped" on his proverbial wrist for actions that anyone else would and has gone to prison for!

It's time someone did some REAL investigating... it's there... we just have to have someone with authority and balls to get ALL the details!

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**Drew** • 5 years ago

I read through the Maine statute on unlawful sexual contact and I believe Rushlau would have a hard time prosecuting the case. The Maine age of consent is 16. Judging from Rushlau's statement, he needed evidence the boy did not give consent or Bramhall compelled the sexual contact through force, threat, or intimidation. That might have been difficult to prove. It is much easier to bring the case against Bramhall for the alleged sexual contact with a 9 year old girl. Consent is no longer an issue to impair a finding of guilt.

The bail seems to be low.

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Despite what others say in an attempt to discredit us, we are not part of any organization(s), we are simply human beings who have a personal friend who wears the "*sex offender*" label due to one stupid mistake (that didn't involve touching or having sex with a child) over 21 years ago. Several of us are also sexual abuse survivors as well. We do attend the [SOSEN forums](#). We are **NOT** part of ReformSexOffenderLaws.org, NAMBLA, MinuteMen or any other organization. **Anybody who says we are, are lying!**

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