

This copy is for your personal, noncommercial use only. You can order presentation-ready copies for distribution to your colleagues, clients or customers [here](#) or use the "Reprints" tool that appears above any article. [Order a reprint of this article now.](#)

## Former Cherokee jail officer added to sex offenders list

By [Kim Kimzey](#)

[kim.kimzey@shj.com](mailto:kim.kimzey@shj.com)

Published: Wednesday, May 1, 2013 at 6:44 p.m.

A former Cherokee jail officer who pleaded guilty to charges related to inappropriately touching a 7-year-old girl has been ordered to register as a sex offender.

Harold Glenn Phillips, 38, of 3083 Corinth Road, Gaffney, was originally charged with first-degree criminal sexual conduct with a minor under age 11 and two counts of lewd act upon a minor. The State Law Enforcement Division charged Phillips in August 2011, a month after the child's mother reported the allegations to the Cherokee County Sheriff's Office.

Sheriff Steve Mueller previously told the Herald-Journal that Phillips took a polygraph test administered by SLED and admitted to the allegations after the test.

Phillips pleaded guilty in a plea agreement in January to three counts of second-degree assault and battery.

Circuit Judge J. Mark Hayes II sentenced Phillips to six years in prison and an additional three-year consecutive sentence was suspended to five years probation. It was not immediately decided whether Phillips would have to register as a sex offender.

Hayes ordered Monday that good cause existed for Phillips to be placed on the registry, "based on the State's argument that the facts of the underlying offenses are of the type that the General Assembly deemed sufficient to establish good cause for sex offender registration."

Phillips' attorney, Trent Pruett, argued that two expert witnesses evaluated Phillips and testified that based on their evaluations, Phillips did not have a sexual disorder, major illness or psychosis.

One expert testified that Phillips was in the lowest-risk category for re-arrest or re-conviction for sexual offending, while the other expert concluded Phillips "has a preference for appropriate sexual behavior," Pruett wrote in a memorandum.

Phillips is currently serving time at Evans Correctional Institution, a medium-security prison in Bennettsville, and his projected release date is Nov. 20, 2014, according to information from the S.C. Department of Corrections' website.

Phillips worked at the Cherokee County Detention Center from July 2009 until he was fired after his arrest in August 2011. He has been held in jail without bond since then.

Copyright © 2013 GoUpstate.com — All rights reserved. Restricted use only.

