

## NEWS RELEASE GREENE COUNTY PROSECUTING ATTORNEY DAN PATTERSON

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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Springfield Man Found Guilty of Sexually Abusing Three Children

SPRINGFIELD, MO. – Greene County Prosecuting Attorney Dan Patterson announces Clinton M. Boyd, 46, of Springfield, Missouri was convicted on Tuesday, February 23, 2021 by a Greene County Jury of sexually abusing three separate children, ages 5, 11, and 13.

The jury deliberated for approximately two hours before returning the verdicts finding Boyd guilty of two counts of the unclassified felony of statutory sodomy in the first degree, three counts of the class A felony of child molestation in the first degree, and one count of the unclassified felony of enticement of a child less than fifteen years old.

Boyd was found guilty in this case of abusing a five year old relative in 2011 as well as the eleven year old and thirteen year old daughters of a friend for offenses committed in 2019. The abuse spanned several years from 2008 to 2019 and involved Boyd bringing one child to his Springfield residence where she was sexually abused. Boyd also has two previous 2004 convictions for the class C felony of statutory rape in the second degree involving two separate victims. While Boyd was initially given probation on the prior offenses that probation was revoked in 2005 and he was sent to the Department of Corrections to serve his five year sentence. (At the time the maximum punishment for a class C felony was seven years).

The victims in this case did not immediately disclose the abuse as Boyd had made them promise, "not to tell." Prosecutor Patterson, explained that, in fact, the majority of child sexual abuse incidents are never disclosed. There are many blocks that prevent children from disclosing such abuse including distrust of investigators and outsiders, fear of not being believed, shame or guilt, the fear of "breaking up" their

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family, and/or threats of harm. If you suspect a child needs help, please make a report. The Children's Division Child Abuse and Neglect Hotline is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week at 1-800-392-3728. Information on what all adults can do to prevent and respond to child abuse and information about signs and indicators of abuse can be found at: <a href="https://www.essential4kids.org/digital-flyers">https://www.essential4kids.org/digital-flyers</a>.

The jury trial was presided over by The Honorable David Jones. The defendant is subject to a sentence of up to life in prison. Judge Jones set a sentencing hearing for May 7, 2021 following a sentencing assessment report prepared by the Department of Probation and Parole.

This case is being prosecuted by Assistant Prosecuting Attorneys Sarah Donelan and Dakota W. Paris. It was investigated by the Springfield Police Department.

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