

Local Man Sentenced In Sex Offense Case

A Shallotte area man last week was sentenced to eight years in prison after he pleaded guilty in February to a sex offense.

According to the Brunswick County Clerk of Court's office, Judge Giles R. Clark handed down the sentence to Ronald Lee Phipps, 34, of Route 3, Shallotte, last Thursday in Brunswick County Superior Court.

Phipps pleaded guilty Feb. 8 to one count of second-degree sexual offense. As part of his plea agreement, an indecent liberties charge and two first-degree sex offense counts against him were dismissed. He had been indicted Jan. 11 on those charges by a Brunswick County grand jury.

He faced a possible maximum prison sentence of 40 years and a presumptive sentence of 12 years on the second-degree sex offense charge. According to court records, Clark gave Phipps the eight-year sentence after determining that mitigating factors outweighed aggravating factors in the case.

The defendant was not sentenced in February, to allow him to undergo a diagnostic evaluation at Southern Correctional Center in Troy. At his sentencing last week, he was given credit for the time he served while awaiting sentencing.

Clark also ordered that the defendant pay for the victim's psychological, psychiatric and other medical treatment, if he is granted work release.

Phipps was arrested Dec. 29, 1987, by the Brunswick County Sheriff's Department in connection with an incident that occurred Dec. 7, 1987, at his residence. The sexual offense involved a four-year-old girl, according to court records.

Also during the May 16 through 20 term of Brunswick County Superior Court, Judge Clark heard the following cases:

Gregory Dudley, possession of drug paraphernalia, dismissed; felonious possession of marijuana, dismissed; felonious possession of cocaine, State Department of Corrections two years, suspended three years, supervised probation three years, \$250 and costs, 100 hours community service within 90 days, other conditions.

David Thomas, felonious breaking and entering, misdemeanor attempted breaking and entering, State Department of Corrections five years.

Katrina Bell, simple assault, Brunswick County Jail not less nor more than 30 days, suspended 12 months, supervised probation two years, \$50 and costs, attorney fees \$500, 100 hours community service within 90 days, not go on premises of North Brunswick High School, not go on premises of McDonald's in Shallotte, not harass or go about plaintiff.

Wayne Mooney, simple assault, State Department of Corrections not less nor more than one year,

suspended 24 months, unsupervised probation, \$500 restitution, costs.

Lawrence Ballard, probation violation, revoked.

Daniel Childers, probation revocation appealed, continue on probation, serve additional two days.

Johnny Frank Cobb Jr., probation violation, continue on probation.

Tony Alonzo Hooper, probation violation, revoked.

Gary Leroy Miller, probation violation, revoked.

Jeff Watts, probation violation,

revoked.

James L. Arnette, re-sentenced, felonious larceny, felonious breaking and entering motor vehicle, State Department of Corrections 10 years, credit for 31 days regular time, gain time, goal time and merit time; four counts financial credit card theft, 10 counts breaking and entering motor vehicle, one count felonious larceny, five counts misdemeanor larceny, consolidated State Department of Corrections five years at expiration of first case.

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150 Domestic Calls Answered

Brunswick County Sheriff's Department officers answered 914 calls during April, including 150 domestic disturbances.

They handled 184 investigations, made 29 arrests as prosecuting witness, five on drunk and disruptive charges. Officers served 476 civil papers, six juvenile petitions, 359 local warrants, 10 foreign warrants and four mental and inebriate papers. Two hundred and twenty-

seven witnesses were summoned. Deputies recovered \$4,250 in property and found 20 doors and windows open.

They drove 90,524 miles on 5,566 gallons of fuel, making 29 trips outside the county. Eleven off-duty hours were spent in court and 360 on-duty hours.

Twenty-one crime prevention meetings were held.

Office Records 575 Deeds

During April 575 deeds were recorded by the Brunswick County Register of Deeds office for revenues of \$4,991.

In other transactions, the office recorded 389 deeds of trust, with revenues of \$4,530, and 503 irregular instruments of corporations, contracts, financial statements and cancellation of deeds of trust, for revenues of \$5,040.50.

Twenty-four marriage licenses were issued for \$480, 31 plats recorded for \$620; and real estate excise

collections totaled \$11,556.50. With \$1,220.80 in miscellaneous revenue, total revenue for the month was \$28,438.80.

Expenses excluding salaries include \$140 per diem, \$123.46 postage; \$348.12 telephone; \$111.22 travel and training; \$1,227.45 maintenance and repair; \$150.75 equipment rental; \$168.34 departmental supplies; \$1,982.80 contracted services; and \$1,274 service maintenance contracts, for a total of \$5,526.24.

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