



Franklin Man Sentenced to Ten Years in Prison for Sexual Assault of a Child

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**DAVID P. FORNSHELL
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Jason Keith, 42, of Franklin, was sentenced today to ten years in prison by Warren County Common Pleas Court Judge Donald Oda. Earlier this month, Keith pled guilty to two counts of gross sexual imposition, felonies of the 3rd degree.

On two separate occasions, Keith had sexual contact with a minor under the age of 13. In late May, the victim disclosed to a friend that Keith had been molesting her. On March 8, 2016, while the victim was asleep, Keith started touching her breasts. The victim moved to get him to stop.

On May 27, 2016, while the victim was sitting in a chair, Keith began putting his hands up her shorts. Keith later admitted to Detective Jeff Stewart of the Franklin Police Department that he touched the victim's vagina over her underwear and that he touched her breasts skin to skin.

"Child sexual predators target their victims based upon their vulnerability, making these cases some of the most difficult to prosecute. Fortunately, Warren County has skilled law enforcement professionals, as well as a tremendous resource in the Child Advocacy Center, to investigate these cases, to prosecute the offenders, and to get these child victims the counseling services they need when they are subjected to this type of inexcusable abuse," said Warren County Prosecutor David P. Fornshell.

Keith was classified a Tier II sex offender and will have to register with the local sheriff's office every 180 days for 25 years.

Warren County Prosecutor David P. Fornshell commended Detective Jeff Stewart of the Franklin Police Department, Assistant Prosecutor Carrie Heisele, Victim Witness Coordinator Melissa Kennard, and Legal Assistant Tonya Colwell for their work on the case.



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