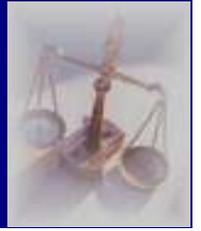




# Genesee County Prosecutor's Office

## David Leyton, Prosecutor



## Genesee County man pleads in sex assaults involving children

by Paul Janczewski | The Flint Journal  
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**GENESEE COUNTY, Michigan** -- Kevin T. Odette told a judge he sexually molested young boys and girls -- some his relatives -- that were left in his care and in some cases took pictures and videos of the encounters.

Odette, 34, who lived in Burton and Mt. Morris, molested the children during the summer of 2006 in Flint and Vienna townships.

Genesee Circuit Judge Richard B. Yuille

scheduled an April 28 sentencing for Odette, who Wednesday pleaded guilty to six counts of first-degree criminal sexual conduct with a victim under 13 years old, four counts of manufacturing child sexually abusive materials and two counts of using a computer to commit a crime.

He pleaded no contest to a charge of second-degree criminal sexual conduct.

Officials said Odette may have molested dozens of children over the past 20 years.

The cases against him began when a relative reported finding child pornography when Odette was moving from Vienna Township to Burton last year.

Investigators later found 75 VHS tapes and more than 200 DVDs and believe he could have molested as many as 75 children from the Gaylord, Lansing and Flint areas.

Under questioning by Yuille during his plea, Odette kept his head down and answered quietly. He told Yuille he had sexually molested boys age 9, 4, 8, 7 and 12, and a girl, 11.

Yuille told Odette he faces at least 25 years in prison when sentenced.

Odette had faced at least 15 charges related to the molestations, but prosecutors dismissed several in exchange for his pleas.



Another factor in offering a plea deal was to spare the victims from testifying in court, officials and Odette's attorney said.

Attorney Mark W. Latchana, who represents Odette, also said prosecutors had "overwhelming evidence" against his client.

During the holidays, Odette sent a one-page letter to the family of one of his victims, wishing them a "Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year." In the letter, Odette wrote that he was wrong to molest the family's two victims and said he deserved a beating he received in jail from other inmates.

The mother of the two victims said Odette's letter also asked the family to forgive him, especially because he has forgiven himself.

After that, a judge asked jail officials to monitor Odette's telephone calls.