



# Genesee County Prosecutor's Office

## David Leyton, Prosecutor



## Cub Scout leader charged with sexually assaulting children

by Shannon Murphy | The Flint Journal  
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**GRAND BLANC TOWNSHIP, Michigan** -- A township Cub Scout leader allegedly sexually assaulted several children, watched them have sexual intercourse with each other and photographed them, according to the Genesee County prosecutor.

Police allege Charles J. Phillips sexually assaulted young neighbors and friends of his family, said Prosecutor David Leyton. The victims, six boys and a girl, range in age from 9 to 13.

While officials said it doesn't appear Phillips, 36, used his role as a pack leader to solicit children, some of the victims were in his pack, other parents said. Those victims also were Phillips' neighbors.

Phillips was charged earlier this month with seven felonies, including criminal sexual conduct first and second degree; child sexually abusive activity; and accosting children for immoral purposes.

"This is a serial child sexual abuser," Leyton said.

Phillips, who remains in jail on a \$175,000 bond, faces up to life in prison. His attorney, Roger Isaac, said he still is receiving information from the prosecutor's office and did not have a comment.

Mark Lackey, a Grand Blanc Township parent whose son was in Phillips' cub scout pack 512, said he found out about the allegations two weeks ago from another parent. His 9-year-old is not a victim.

Lackey said he and his wife talked to their son about inappropriate behavior after they found out and encouraged him to discuss any issues with them.

He said Phillips often would show up at youth events that Phillips' own child was not involved in.

"My concern is that there may be other kids that are outside of the original (victims) and maybe their parents have no idea," Lackey said.

He said he also is upset that officials with the Tall Pine Council of the Boy Scouts of America did not let parents know about the alleged incidents.

Mike Chaffee, scout executive with the Tall Pine Council, said he was told of the charges by a parent and has not been made aware that any incidents occurred during scouting events. He said Phillips' membership with the scouts ended in December and the council has sent him notices that he is not welcome at scouting events.

The scouts do background checks on all leaders and training, including youth protection classes, for members. Phillips did not have a criminal past, officials said.

"My heart goes out to the children," Chaffee said. "This is a terrible thing."

The allegations against Phillips came to light earlier this year when school officials and police interviewed one victim after a school counselor noticed behavioral changes in one of the victims.

Leyton said it appears the abuse began in mid-2007 and continued through this year.

"You have a man, who over a period of months, forced himself upon young children, repeatedly, in various ways," Leyton said. "It's deeply disturbing."

Investigators allege Phillips forced some of the children to perform sexual acts with him and on each other while he watched, Leyton said.

Most of the incidents took place at Phillips' home. Police also recovered e-mails and text messages Phillips sent that were sexual in nature. Leyton would not say to whom they were sent.

"Reading the allegations ... was just revolting," Leyton said. "It's hard to believe how anyone could do this."

**Flint Journal extras: Sexual assault investigation**

- Police are investigating the alleged sexual assault of children by Charles J. Phillips. He has been charged with seven felonies and police said they have seven victims, ranging in age from 9 to 13.
- Anyone who believes their child may have been a victim is asked to call Grand Blanc Township police at (810) 424-2611.