

Office of the Kane County State's Attorney



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FORMER YOUTH MINISTER AT WEST DUNDEE CHURCH PLEADS GUILTY FOR SEXUALLY ABUSING MINOR

April 2, 2018

An Elgin man has pleaded guilty to having sexual contact with a minor five years ago while he served as a youth minister at a West Dundee church. The guilty plea came just before his trial in the case was set to begin.

36-year-old **Chad A. Coe** today agreed to a sentence of 7 years' imprisonment in the Illinois Department of Corrections in exchange for a guilty plea to aggravated criminal sexual abuse, Class 2 felony.

Circuit Judge James C. Hallock accepted the plea.

Kane County Assistant State's Attorneys Debra Bree and Lori Schmidt stated in court that in June 2013 Coe had sexual contact with the victim at the church in the 900 block of South Eighth Street, West Dundee. Coe knew the victim, who was younger than 18 year old.

In addition to the prison term, Coe must register for life as a sexual offender in accordance with the Illinois Sexual Offender Registration Act.

According to Illinois law, Coe is eligible for day for day credit. He receives credit for 2 days served in the Kane County jail.

The Kane County Child Advocacy Center investigated the case with assistance from the West Dundee Police Department and the Kane County Major Crimes Task Force.

"Not only was this victim abused by a person she thought she could trust, she persevered against him despite his attempts to minimize his criminal conduct by villainizing her and engaging in victim blaming. This case should be a reminder to the community that the vast majority of child sex crimes are committed by people who know their victims and seek to exploit those relationships," Kane County State's Attorney Joe McMahon said.

Chad A. Coe: Age 36 (d.o.b. 10-12-1981), of the 500 block of Dundee Avenue, Elgin