

Office of the Kane County State's Attorney



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SOCIAL WORKER FOR ILLINOIS DHS & ELGIN MENTAL HEALTH CENTER CHARGED FOR HAVING SEXUAL CONDUCT WITH PATIENT

April 5, 2018

An Illinois Department of Human Services social worker at Elgin Mental Health Center faces criminal charges for engaging in sexual conduct with a patient at the center.

Kane County State's Attorney Joe McMahon today charged 53-year-old **Christy L. Lenhardt** of South Elgin with 8 counts of the offense of sexual misconduct with a person with disabilities, Class 3 felony, and 6 counts of the offense of official misconduct, Class 3 felony.

Kane County prosecutors allege in charging documents that on multiple occasions between November 2014 and July 2017 Lenhardt, a social worker for the Illinois Department of Human Services at Elgin Mental Health Center, engaged in sexual conduct with the victim, a patient at Elgin Mental Health Center. Lenhardt knew the sexual conduct was forbidden by law.

A Kane County judge on April 4, 2018, issued a warrant for Lenhardt's arrest and set her bail at \$100,000 with 10 percent (\$10,000) to apply for bond.

Lenhardt was taken into custody this morning by the Illinois State Police. She appeared this afternoon in Kane County bond court in front of Associate Judge Todd Tarter, who set her initial court appearance for 9 a.m. April 20, 2018, in Courtroom 311 at the Kane County Judicial Center.

If convicted, Lenhardt faces a sentence of probation or between 2 and 5 years' imprisonment in the Illinois Department of Corrections.

The Illinois State Police investigated the case.

The charges against Lenhardt are not proof of guilt. Lenhardt is presumed innocent and is entitled to a fair trial in which it is the state's burden to prove guilt beyond a reasonable doubt.

Christy L. Lenhardt: Age 53 (d.o.b. 5-1-1964), of the 200 block of Paine Street, South Elgin, Illinois