

## Office of the Kane County State's Attorney



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## FORMER BIG ROCK LAY PASTOR FOUND GUILTY OF CHILD SEXUAL ASSAULT

December 23, 2022

*RE: **Mark Rivera**: Age 49 (d.o.b. 1-10-1973), of the 0S block of East Street, Winfield, Illinois. Case No. 2019CF1056.*

Kane County State's Attorney Jamie L. Mosser announces that **Mark Rivera** has been found guilty of two counts of predatory criminal sexual assault of a child – Class X felony, and three counts of aggravated criminal sexual abuse – Class 2 felony.

Kane County Assistant State's Attorneys Matthew Rodgers and Morgan Wilkinson presented the following evidence in court:

On multiple occasions between June 2018 and May 2019, Rivera sexually assaulted the victim, whom he knew. The victim was younger than 13 years old. Rivera at the time was a lay pastor at the Anglican Church of North America in Big Rock, Illinois.

Judge Barsanti set Rivera's next court appearance for February 10, 2023 at 1:30 p.m. in Courtroom 319 at the Kane County Judicial Center for motions and sentencing.

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

Rivera remains in custody at the Kane County jail, where he has been held since his arrest in lieu of \$500,000 bail. Judge Barsanti revoked bond upon conviction.

**ASA Rodgers said:** "Mr. Rivera is a predator who used his position of respectability and stature in a church and within the community to prey on this child with no consideration for the trauma he caused. The victim showed great courage, however, telling her mother about his criminal conduct, in preparing for this trial, and in facing him in court. My thanks to ASA Wilkinson, to Child Advocacy Center Investigator Beth Mullarkey, and to advocate Julie Pohlman for their work in bringing justice to this victim and her family."