



JACKSON COUNTY STATE'S ATTORNEY

Michael C. Carr, State's Attorney

Jackson County Courthouse • 1001 Walnut • Third Floor • Murphysboro, IL 62966
(618) 687-7200 • FAX (618) 687-7215

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Michael C. Carr, State's Attorney

Thursday, May 18, 2018

PAUL J. BLANEY, MURPHYSBORO, SENTENCED TO DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS FOR PREDATORY CRIMINAL SEXUAL ASSAULT OF A CHILD AND CHILD PORNOGRAPHY

Michael C. Carr, Jackson County State's Attorney, announced today that on May 18, 2018, Paul J. Blaney, age 67, was sentenced to the Illinois Department of Corrections for the offenses of Predatory Criminal Sexual Assault of a Child and Child Pornography.

Beginning in November 2017, Officers and Detectives with the Murphysboro Police Department began an investigation of the defendant for possible inappropriate relationships with a child. During that investigation, officers learned that, during the year of 2011, the defendant engaged in an act of sexual penetration with a child under the age of 13 years. Officers and Detectives executed a search warrant at the defendant's Murphysboro home and recovered a camera containing an SD card. During a forensic analysis of that camera and SD card, Detectives recovered a number of photographs and videos depicting the defendant engaged in sexual acts with the child victim.

On March 1, 2018, the defendant entered a guilty plea to Predatory Criminal Sexual Assault of a Child and Child Pornography. On May 18, 2018, a sentencing hearing was held where evidence was presented to the Court.

The defendant was sentenced to twenty-four (24) years in prison for Predatory Criminal Sexual Assault of a Child. The defendant must serve 85% of this sentence. The defendant must serve a period of Mandatory Supervised Release of three (3) years to Natural Life. Additionally, the defendant was sentenced to eight (8) years in prison for production of Child Pornography. The defendant must serve a period of three (3) years of Mandatory Supervised Release for this charge. These sentences must run consecutively, meaning the defendant was sentenced to a total of 32 years in prison.

The investigation was conducted by the Murphysboro Police Department. Assistant State's Attorney Casey E. A. Bloodworth was responsible for the prosecution of this case.