

Florida Times-Union

Counselor gets jail time for sex crimes

December 5, 1998

By Vivian Wakefield

A Jacksonville counselor who had pleaded guilty to sex-related crimes involving children was sentenced yesterday to one year in jail and 10 years probation.

Kurt Pitzel was accused of having sex with an underage patient of Riverside Services, a business he operated out of his home. He was also accused of having sex with a runaway whom police said he enticed with drugs and alcohol.

He pleaded guilty to two counts of lewd and lascivious assault on a minor and one count of showing obscene material to minors. IN OTHER NEWS

MURDER CONVICTION: A jury convicted a Jacksonville man yesterday of murdering a Savannah man at a local hotel.

Kenneth Moultrie Elliot, 25, was convicted of first-degree murder in the December 1997 shooting death of Ulysses Bulloch, 45.

Bulloch was shot to death and robbed of \$ 20,000 cash outside of the Super 8 Motel on Harts Road.

Prosecutors were not seeking the death penalty, so life without parole is the only possible sentence, said Assistant State Attorney George Bateh.

Circuit Judge Jack Schemer set sentencing for Dec. 21. Times-Union staff writer Shannon Womble contributed to this report.

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LANGUAGE: ENGLISH

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Florida Times-Union (Jacksonville, FL)

November 14, 1998 Saturday, City Edition

Corrections

SECTION: NATIONAL/INTERNATIONAL; Pg. A-7

LENGTH: 153 words

Corrections and clarifications for all sections of the Times-Union are published in this column.

Because of a reporting error, a story on Page B-5 Wednesday incorrectly stated the company in which Patriot-American Hospitality has agreed to sell its controlling interest. The company is Interstate Hotel Management Inc.

Because of a reporting error, a photo of White running back Roshard Gilyard was misidentified on Page D-1 yesterday.

Because of an editing error, a photo of Bolles assistant football coach John Newman was misidentified as head coach Corky Rogers on Page D-4 yesterday. Rogers' photo is shown here.

A report in Law & Disorder on Page B-4 yesterday should have noted that Kurt Pitzel was charged with having sex with an underage patient of Riverside Services, a business he operated out of his home, not River Region Human Services, where he worked as a drug prevention counselor.

LOAD-DATE: November 17, 1998

LANGUAGE: ENGLISH

GRAPHIC: Photo: (b/w) Mug: Rogers

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Florida Times-Union (Jacksonville, FL)

November 13, 1998 Friday, City Edition
Correction Appended

Husband charged in slaying

BYLINE: Shannon Womble, Times-Union staff writer

SECTION: METRO; Pg. B-4; Law & Disorder

LENGTH: 481 words

A Jacksonville man was charged with murder in the death of his wife yesterday morning after the couple had an argument, police said.

Shirley Osteen, 49, was found dead about 8:30 a.m. in her home in the 2600 block of Bay View Road. Her brother discovered the strangled body and noticed the family's dog and cat were missing.

Her husband, Malcom Osteen, 50, is being held without bond in the Duval County jail.

Police said the couple had ongoing problems. Officials didn't know yesterday how many times police had been called to the house before the slaying.

'He became enraged at her, but we aren't sure what the argument was about at this point,' said police Lt. Mark Foxworth. 'The two pets were also killed. They were buried in the back yard.'

The couple doesn't have any children. IN THE COURTS

COUNSELOR PLEADS GUILTY: A Jacksonville counselor who was charged twice in one week with sex-related crimes involving minors reached a plea agreement with prosecutors yesterday.

Kurt Pitzel, 54, pleaded guilty to one count of showing obscene material to minors, a third-degree felony, and two counts of lewd and lascivious assault on a minor.

He had been charged with four counts of familial or custodial sexual battery, one count of showing obscene material and one count of manufacture of cannabis, said Assistant State Attorney Libby Senterfitt.

Pitzel, who was working as a drug prevention counselor for River Region Human Services, was arrested first in late June, accused of having sex with an underage patient.

A few days later, he was accused of having sex with a runaway whom police said he enticed with drugs and alcohol.

As part of his plea agreement, Pitzel will be sentenced to 10 years of probation, including one year in the Duval County jail when he is sentenced Dec. 4.

CRACK CONSPIRACY PLEAS: Seven people pleaded guilty to conspiring to distribute crack cocaine in St. Augustine yesterday in a case that prosecutors said involved hundreds of kilograms over a 12-year period.

All the defendants face up to life in prison, but must serve at least 10 years under federal statutes. They also could be fined up to \$ 4 million each.

Cases still are pending for seven defendants, who face numerous charges including conspiracy.

Prosecutors said the drug ring sent couriers to Miami to pick up between one and four kilograms of cocaine weekly from 1986 to 1998. The cocaine would be cooked into a crack mixture in St. Augustine, then sold on the streets, officials said. **CRIME NEWS**

ANOTHER SOUTHSIDE ROBBERY: A woman dressed as a man robbed a Southside bank Monday afternoon, though she never displayed a weapon, police said.

A woman entered NationsBank, 9971 Baymeadows Road, about 4:30 p.m. and handed a teller a demand note.

Times-Union staff writers Derek L. Kinner and Vivian Wakefield contributed to this report.

LOAD-DATE: November 18, 1998

LANGUAGE: ENGLISH

CORRECTION-DATE: November 14, 1998 Saturday

CORRECTION:

A report in Law & Disorder on Page B-4 yesterday should have noted that Kurt Pitzel was charged with having sex with an underage patient of Riverside Services, a business he operated out of his home, not River Region Human Services, where he worked as a drug prevention counselor.

GRAPHIC: Photo: (b/w) Mug: Suspect

TYPE: Digest

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Florida Times-Union (Jacksonville, FL)

June 27, 1998 Saturday, City Edition

Counselor arrested on sex charges;
Man was stationed at elementary school

BYLINE: Kathleen Sweeney, Times-Union staff writer

SECTION: METRO; Pg. B-4

LENGTH: 278 words

A Jacksonville man who worked as a counselor was arrested Wednesday on charges of having sex with an underage patient.

Kurt Pitzel, 54, of the 2500 block of Herschel Street was charged with lewd and lascivious conduct, assault on a minor and unlawful sexual activity with a minor. He is being held at the Duval County jail on \$ 35,000 bond.

For the past five years, Pitzel worked as a drug prevention counselor for River Region Human Services and was stationed at Wesconnett Elementary School. Police said none of the elementary children are involved in the case.

Pitzel was suspended from his job with pay pending with the outcome of the investigation.

Police say Pitzel gave a 14-year-old boy drugs, alcohol and a place to live in 1993 in exchange for sex. During that time, police said the patient was shown pornographic videotapes and magazines and was photographed nude in sexual positions.

Sex Crimes Lt. Paul Woolard said Pitzel's business cards state he is the director of 'Riverside Services,' a business he runs out of his home.

Pitzel has worked as a drug prevention counselor at River Region Human Services for five years. He has a master's degree and plenty of experience, said Dick Warfel, the agency's executive director.

Warfel said no client complaints have been lodged against Pitzel.

He said the state has checked Pitzel's background twice since his started with the company and he has had clear reviews.

'The arrest didn't have anything to do with his employment,' Warfel said.

Pitzel has at least one prior arrest stemming from drug charges in New York state, Woolard said. He has no prior arrests in Jacksonville.

LOAD-DATE: June 29, 1998

LANGUAGE: ENGLISH

GRAPHIC: Photo: (b/w) Mug: Pitzel

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