

MEDIA RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

April 29, 2008

From: Earl Taylor, District Attorney

OPELOUSAS, LA- The St. Landry Parish Grand Jury reported to and filed with the 27th Judicial District Court, Judge Donald Hebert presiding:

A True Bill (indictment) was returned against Lawrence H. Perkins, 70, 331 Rodney Street, Eunice, Louisiana for 2cts aggravated incest upon a child under the age of thirteen (13). A person convicted of aggravated incest, wherein the crime occurred prior to August 14, 2006, shall be imprisoned with or without hard labor for not less than five but no more than twenty years. A person convicted of aggravated incest upon a child under 13, wherein the crime occurred on or after August 15, 2006, shall be imprisoned at hard labor for not less than twenty-five years but no more than life.

An indictment (True Bill) is a formal charge by a Grand Jury for the crimes indicated. A Grand Jury consists of twelve residents, with two alternates, who are empanelled by the 27th Judicial District Court. By Louisiana law, the DA's office is prohibited from commenting on the evidence presented to the Grand Jury. Specifically Code of Criminal Procedure Article 434, requires that "...members of the grand jury, and all other persons having confidential access to information concerning grand jury proceedings, shall keep secret the testimony of witnesses and all other matters occurring at, or directly connected with, a meeting of the grand jury..." For this reason there is never a discussion about the evidence upon which the Grand Jury based its findings.