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Atchison Man Gets Years on Child Sex Charges

A 36 year old Atchison man will serve nearly 10 years in prison on two charges of aggravated indecent liberties with a child.

Michael Grippin was sentenced to 59 months on each count Monday in Atchison County Court.

Grippin pled no contest to the charges in early March as part of an amended complaint that originally charged him with three counts of rape.

Factual basis reports state Grippin was guilty of lewd touching of an 11 year old girl for purposes of sexual gratification on two occasions in July 2011.

The case was set to go to trial until parties reached an agreement according to County Attorney Gerald Kuckleman "to prevent further trauma of testifying for the victim."

Before sentencing, Kuckleman recommended the consecutive sentence due to Grippin's "lack of remorse" and the fact that "he doesn't admit" to committing the acts.

Grippin's Co-counsel Kathleen Ambrosio recommended that the sentence be concurrent because the case "impacts many people" besides Grippin and that the fact "that he will have to register as an offender provides protection to society."

It was a full courtroom divided between the two families involved.

Tears were shed by several after the sentence was handed down by Atchison County Judge Martin Asher.

After the families dispersed the courtroom, words were audibly exchanged in the hallway, causing the jail captain to leave the courtroom to make sure any altercations were avoided.

Grippin had no prior criminal history.