

CLALLAM COUNTY PROSECUTING ATTORNEY

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Port Angeles, Washington

Port Angeles Man Sentenced in Child Sexual Assault Case

Clallam County Superior Court Cause No.: 21-1-00204-05

Clallam County Superior Court Judge Lauren Erickson sentenced 83-year-old William Lattin of Port Angeles yesterday to 93 months in prison for one count of rape of a child in the first degree and one count of child molestation in the first degree. The sentence followed a jury verdict in October of last year finding Lattin guilty, which stemmed from his sexual abuse of his seven-year-old granddaughter.

In July of 2021, Lattin's granddaughter, by marriage, and her parents traveled from Nevada to visit him and his wife at their home in Port Angeles. Lattin's granddaughter went into the guest bedroom following a social gathering to talk on the phone with her cousin. Lattin came into the room, found his granddaughter on the bed, pulled down her pants and underwear, and digitally penetrated her. After Lattin left, his granddaughter disclosed to her grandmother and mother while still in the room. The next day, her parents contacted the Clallam County Sheriff's Office. Deputy Jim Dixon of the Clallam Sheriff's Office conducted the forensic interview and Detective Brandon Stoppani performed the investigation into the case.

"This case is about the bravery of a little girl coming forward and saying what her grandfather did to her," said Deputy Prosecuting Attorney Steve Johnson in recommending a 108-month sentence. "She showed amazing courage testifying at both a pretrial hearing and at trial with him present in the courtroom." Johnson also pointed out that the Lattin showed little remorse for the victim or her family. "There is virtually no evidence that Lattin has taken accountability for his actions," said Johnson.

In addition to incarceration, Lattin will be on lifetime community custody following his release and will be required to register as a sex offender.

Office Information

The Clallam County Prosecuting Attorney's Office employs over 25 people, including 14 attorneys. Clallam County, which includes Forks, Port Angeles and Sequim, has an approximate population of 78,000.

The Criminal Division represents the state and the county in criminal matters in the Clallam County District and Superior Courts. The Criminal Division is responsible for prosecuting all felonies in Clallam County and all misdemeanors in unincorporated areas of Clallam County as well as the Cities of Port Angeles and Sequim.

The Civil Division acts as the law firm representing the County and its agencies. The Civil Division advises and represents all of the County's elected officials and departments on a myriad of complex legal matters. The range of legal representation provided by this unit is expansive and covers virtually every aspect of civil practice.

The Child Support Division is wholly funded by and represents the Division of Child Support of the State of Washington. The Support Division carries out judicial establishment of paternity and child support, enforcements for failure to pay court-ordered child support, and modifications to existing child support orders. The Support Division also represents the State of Washington in collection actions on parents owing a duty of support.

For more information call:

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