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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**FORMER PASTOR AND SCHOOL NURSE
SENTENCED TO 105 YEARS IN PRISON**

Muncie Indiana – Today, the Honorable John M. Feick, Judge of the Delaware Circuit Court No. 4 sentenced Brian Couch to 105 years in prison. On July 14, 2021, Couch pled guilty to a count of Child Molesting, a Class A Felony, a count of Child Molesting, a Class A Felony, and a count of child molesting a Level 1 Felony. In sentencing Couch, Judge Feick noted that during the hearing that Couch had his head lowered in prayer. The Judge said he hoped it was prayer for his victims but he fears that the Defendant is actually praying for himself. Judge Feick told the Defendant that we only have so many words to speak in our life time and to verbally “condemn you would be a waste of my breath.” Instead, the Judge chose to speak to the victims and acknowledge their pain and suffering.



During the hearing, one of Couch’s victims testified and described the pain and suffering she endured as a result of the Defendant’s years of molestation and horrendous abuse. She said the “sound of [his] footsteps coming to my bedroom door made me nauseous.” She then told the Defendant “you made choices that will stick with me for the rest of my life – you hurt and abused me – you are mean, angry and used and abused almost everyone and everything in your life.”

Deputy Prosecutor Jagen Arnold asked the court to impose a maximum sentence of 150 years in prison. In making his argument Deputy Prosecutor Arnold told the Court that “other kids are put to bed and told that monsters don’t exist, but the victim here was forced to live with hers. Brian Couch is the proverbial monster under the bed. The victims are serving a life sentence, he deserves one too.”

After the hearing, Delaware County Prosecuting Attorney said that “The Defendant’s crimes are as repulsive as they are heartbreaking. My thoughts and prayers will forever be with the victims. I wish them all the very best that life has

to offer. My office is available to help them in any way that we can.” Prosecutor Hoffman noted that it has been a very busy week for the criminal justice system. “Last night a jury, the collective conscience and wisdom of our community, found a serious violent felon guilty of possessing a firearm and today, a vile sexual predator was sentenced to 105 years in prison. As the prosecutor, I take tremendous comfort in the fact that Brian Couch will spend the rest of his life in prison and that the only way he will leave prison will be in a pine box. He will no longer have the ability hurt another child.”

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