https://www.apg-wi.com/rice_lake_chronotype/paywall/clayton-man-charged-with-sexual-assault-of-child/article_aa8c9808-7b4e-5102-8dc0-83c387542ce5.html

Clayton man charged with sexual assault of child

Aug 3, 2021

A Clayton man has been charged with second-degree sexual assault of a child in Barron County Circuit Court.

Leslie A. Toews, 44, was charged with the assault of a child under 16 years of age on July 26 and will make his initial appearance on Aug. 11.

According to the criminal complaint:

Toews, a member of the Mennonite Church who had been excommunicated but hoped to return, talked with Barron County Detective Mary Dexter in the presence of his wife and two pastors.

Toews said the incidents took place on his farm and initially said it had happened in about 2015 and he thought the girl was about 17½ at the time. He said there was a little touching involved and claimed it was his idea, not the girl's.

Dexter's report says the girl told the two pastors in 2017.

Dexter interviewed the girl, who said the incidents of touching started when she was 13 and continued until she was 14.

If convicted Toews faces a fine of up to $100,000, imprisonment for up to 40 years, or both.

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