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PRESS RELEASE

July 25, 2008

Former Pastor Dennis Bowling Sentenced to Prison 2006-CR-4934

Defendant Dennis Bowling was sentenced to 20 years in the penitentiary for his convictions on 15 felony counts. On June 5, 2008 the defendant pled guilty to:

- 8 Counts of Sexual Battery
- 1 Count of Gross Sexual Imposition <13
- 3 Counts of Unlawful Sexual Conduct With A Minor
- 1 Count of Gross Sexual Imposition
- 2 Counts of Rape <13

The defendant was the pastor at Kingdom Harvest Church in Riverside, Ohio for 19 years. The victims in this case, for which these charges originate, were teenage girls and members of his congregation. The victims were as young as age 12. The defendant, from approximately December, 1996 to November 2006, used his position of trust as the church pastor and his authority as an adult to manipulate his victims into having sex with him. These encounters occurred in the church office, the defendant's house, a parishioner's home and other locations.

In addition to the prison sentence, he was designated a Tier III Sexually Oriented Offender. He will be required to register his address with the Sheriff's Office every 90 days for the rest of his life.

Prosecuting Attorney Mat Heck said, "This defendant used his position as pastor in order to gain access to young females. He then groomed them as a mentor in order to further build trust, only to eventually victimize these girls sexually. Thankfully, this predator will be locked up for 20 years and not be in a position to hurt anyone else."

For additional information, contact: Mr. Greg Flannagan, Administrative Assistant, 937-225-5610

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