24th
Mr. Ronald R. Klock  
Pine Tree Council Inc.,  
Boy Scouts of America  
125 Auburn St.,  
Portland, Maine. 04103

Re: Robert John Sherman

Dear Mr. Klock:

First of all, thank you very much for your comprehensive letter of January 19, 1989. It included all the information I needed.

I have supervised John Sherman on Parole for Massachusetts and New Hampshire for 2 years. On August 22, 1984 John was convicted of Aggravated Felonious Sexual Assault in the Grafton County Superior Court, and was sentenced to 5 to 15 years. On February 6, 1984 John Sherman was convicted of Rape of a Child in the Middlesex County Superior Court and sentenced to 4 to 8 years. He was paroled on February 19, 1987 with several special conditions, one of which was no contact with children under the age of eighteen.

John’s offenses stemmed from his involvement with the Boy Scouts in Massachusetts.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Charles D. Strandberg,  
Probation-Parole Officer

CBS:ah

cc: FItle
Chuck Strandberg  
Dist. Probation Office  
P.O. Box 3836  
Portland, Maine 04104  

Re: Robert John Sherman  

Dear Mr. Strandberg:  

I want to thank you for cooperating with the Pine Tree Council, Boy Scouts of America in the matter concerning Robert John Sherman. The purpose of my recent inquiry about Mr. Sherman was to verify rumors of a previous child abuse conviction. We work very closely with chartering institutions of Scout Troops and Cub Packs to protect children. BSA denies membership to convicted child abusers.  

On November 21, 1988 Mr. Sherman applied for membership as the Committee Chairman of Scout Troop #154 of Fryeburg-Lovell Kiwanis Club and began conducting meetings and planning camping trips with the boys. On a December camping trip several parents became uncomfortable with his relationship with the boys. They requested a background check by the Kiwanis Club and the Scout Council.  

Our background check revealed that Mr. Sherman falsified a great deal of information on his Scout Membership Application. This concealed the fact that his BSA membership had been revoked for reasons of sexual child abuse convictions in the Algonquin Boy Scout Council in Framingham, Mass. several years ago. A copy of his membership application is enclosed for your file.  

On January 11, 1989, Robert Denlinger, Scout Executive of the Pine Tree Council, placed a personal phone call to Mr. Sherman ordering him to cease all activities and relationships with the Boy Scouts of America. He has also been informed in writing that his application for membership has been denied.
REGISTRATION, SUBSCRIPTION AND STATISTICAL SERVICE

APPENDIX A

BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA

DATE August 5, 1983

FULL NAME John (unknown) Sherman

SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER unknown

(No initials if you can possibly get full name)

ADDRESS unknown at this time / P.O. Box 61

CITY North Woodstock

STATE New Hampshire

ZIP CODE 03262

DATE OF BIRTH 6/2/51 6/7/49 (This is important and should be exact)

APPROXIMATE AGE (To be used ONLY when date of birth is not known)

RELIGION Jewish

NATIONALITY

OCCUPATION Unemployed (willed money)

EDUCATION unknown

WEIGHT 150

HEIGHT 5-7/5-8

RACE Caucasian

COLOR OF HAIR Auburn

COLOR OF EYES unknown

OUTSTANDING CHARACTERISTICS OR INTERESTS photography/outdoors

MARRIED OR SINGLE single

CHILDREN a/a

(Number, ages, and names, if possible)

NAME OF SPOUSE a/a

SCOUTING CONNECTIONS:

UNIT # CITY STATE POSITION DATE REGISTERED DATE RESIGNED

P 36 Framingham MA CM 1977 5/83

T 36 Framingham MA SA 1980 5/83

SPECIAL RECOGNITION

SUSPENDED OR DENIED REGISTRATION FOR FOLLOWING REASONS:

Resignation requested and received -- arrested and indicted on a number of counts of child molestation, etc.

SPECIFY THE FACTS WHICH LEAD YOU TO RECOMMEND DENIAL OF REGISTRATION AND LIST ATTACHED SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS (STATE ONLY KNOWN FACTS, NOT RumOR, CONJECTURE OR SPECULATION):

NOTED

MAY 31 '84

JOSEPH L ANGLIM

F.  STAN

JAN 31 '84

RECEIVED

4/14/83

Council / Algonquin Council, BSA

CONF000314

DYKES_L_000312

Plaintiff's Exhibit 22
Page 4 of 25
BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA

ADULT APPLICATION

PART ONE

Please print all letters in each space—press hard; you are making three copies.

First name and initial:

Last name:

Address—street or R.F.D.:

City:

State:

Zip:

Social Security number:

Date of Birth:

Month:

Day:

Year:

Year of employment:

Current Employment—occupation, employer, and business address:

Previous employment—occupation, employer, and business address:

Registration fee:

Boy's Life fee:

Tuition (if any):

Approval—sign back cover (sign here and in Part Two)

For Council Use

Council

Unit No.

Member ID No.

Approved:

Date:

11/21/88

Applicant's Wilkerson, Sana River Group:

BOY SCOUTS OF AmECA

ADULT APPLICATIOn

PART ONE

Please print all letters in each space—press hard; you are making three copies.

First name and initial:

Last name:

Address—street or R.F.D.:

City:

State:

Zip:

Social Security number:

Date of Birth:

Month:

Day:

Year:

Year of employment:

Current Employment—occupation, employer, and business address:

Previous employment—occupation, employer, and business address:

Registration fee:

Boy's Life fee:

Tuition (if any):

Approval—sign back cover (sign here and in Part Two)

For Council Use

Council

Unit No.

Member ID No.

Approved:

Date:

11/21/88

Applicant's Wilkerson, Sana River Group:

BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA

ADULT APPLICATION

PART ONE

Please print all letters in each space—press hard; you are making three copies.

First name and initial:

Last name:

Address—street or R.F.D.:

City:

State:

Zip:

Social Security number:

Date of Birth:

Month:

Day:

Year:

Year of employment:

Current Employment—occupation, employer, and business address:

Previous employment—occupation, employer, and business address:

Registration fee:

Boy’s Life fee:

Tuition (if any):

Approval—sign back cover (sign here and in Part Two)

For Council Use

Council

Unit No.

Member ID No.

Approved:

Date:

11/21/88

Applicant's Wilkerson, Sana River Group:
Name: Robert John Sherman
Driver's license No: 4737182
State: ME Exp. 07-90

1. Previous Scouting background (for last 5 years)
   Position: Council
   Year: None

2. Previous experience. What other experience, if any, have you had that may assist you in working with youth?
   As a volunteer: Soccer coach
   In your work or profession: Camping guide

3. Previous residences (last 5 years)
   Year: None

4. Current memberships (religious, community, youth, business, or professional organizations)
   Appalachian Mtn. Club
   Registered Maine Guide
   SCUBA Certified

5. Educational or special training
   □ Elementary □ High school □ College □ Advanced degree(s)

6. Health limitations or special conditions
   None

7. History of legal involvement
   a. Are you listed in the National Register of Sex Offenders?
   Yes No
   (If yes, please explain)
   b. Have you ever been convicted of a criminal offense?
   Yes No
   (If yes, please explain)
   c. Have you ever been arrested or charged for the use or sale of drugs?
   Yes No
   d. Have you ever been hospitalized or treated for alcohol or substance abuse?
   Yes No
   e. Have you ever been arrested or charged with child neglect or abuse?
   Yes No
   f. Has your driver's license ever been suspended or revoked?
   Yes No
   g. Other than the above matters, is there any fact or circumstance involving you or your background that would call into question your being entrusted with the supervision, guidance, and care of young people?
   Yes No

8. References. Please list those who are familiar with your character as it relates to working with youth:
   f. Brian V. Murtha
   Address: 15 E. 15th
   City/Zip: Farmington, ME 04938
   Relationship: Co-worker
   Phone: (207) 367-8243

      i. J. B. Merrilees
      Address: RR 1 Box 20 (?)
      City/Zip: Brownfield, ME 04614
      Relationship: Neighbors
      Phone: 932-2520

C. Why read the following statement before signing:
   I, . . . understand, understand that:
   a. The information I have provided may be verified by contacting persons or organizations named in this application, and I hereby release and agree to hold harmless from liability any person or organization that provides information concerning me to the Boy Scouts of America or local council thereof.
   b. In signing this application, I agree or affirm that the information that I have given is true and correct.

   R. Sherman
   Date: 11-21-88

   Reviewed and approved by:
   P. H. V. R. Date: 11-28-88

   Approval—see back cover (sign here and in part one)

   Scout executive certification

   D. Y. K. Date

   Local Council Copy

   ADU APPLICATION PART TWO

   BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA

   CONF000316

   Plaintiff's Exhibit 22
   Page 6 of 25

   DYKES_I_000314
January 11, 1989

Robert J. Sherman
P.O. Box 61
Brownfield, ME 04010-0061

Dear Mr. Sherman:

After careful review, we have decided that your registration with the Boy Scouts of America should be suspended. We are therefore compelled to request that you sever any relations you may have with the Boy Scouts of America.

You should understand that BSA membership registration is a privilege and is not automatically granted to everyone who applies. We reserve the right to suspend registration whenever there is a concern that an individual may not measure up to the high standards of membership the BSA seeks to provide for American youth.

If you wish to have this decision reviewed, please write to me within sixty (60) days of the date of this letter, explaining your version of the facts supporting your claim that your registration as a BSA member should be reinstated. The procedures for review are attached.

Sincerely yours,

[Signature]
Roger J. Castonguay
Council President

[Signature]
Robert L. Denlinger
Council Executive

Enclosure

cc: James A. Steadman, SM
Ranger W. Perley, IH
ADULT APPLICATION
PART ONE

Please print one letter in each space—press hard; you are making three copies.

First name and initial
ROBERT

Last name
JOHN

SHERMAN

Address—street or P.O. Box
120 130 X 61

City
BROOKFIELD

State
IN

ZIP code
46010-0061

Social Security number

Additional address information (if necessary)

Home phone
207-735-2765

Business phone

Date of birth
06/07/95

Month
06

Day
07

Year
95

Present employment—occupation, employer, and business address
Applying in Milt's Club, Saco River Camp, A-1 - Box 531
Brookfield, IN 46010

Previous employment—occupation, employer, and business address

Years of this employment
1

Name of child

Age of child

Marital status

Sex

W

M

S

F

Number of children

19

Check: New leader

Check: Former leader

RegISTRATION FEES

Base

$18.00

Life

$15.00

Term (months)

Unit renewal date

Month

Year

Approval—see back cover (sign here and in part two)

If applicant has an accepted membership certificate, registration may be accomplished by paying $1 for processing the transfer. Check the box and attach certificate. It will be returned by the council.

Scoutmaster/leader

Relationship

CO-WINNER

Phone
WD2-367-8243

Scout executive certification

Date

CONF000318

Plaintiff's Exhibit 22
Page 8 of 25

DYKES_I_000316
WATS CALL FORM

CALL BACK REQUESTED ___

COUNCIL # 718

PHONE NO: 207-797-5252

CALLER: Robert D. Leon

POSITION: AE

TYPE OF PROBLEM

REGISTRATION ___ VETERANS ___ EXPLORING ___

SCOUTING ___ BOYS' LIFE ___

UNIT # DIST. # EXP. DATE TRANSMITTAL # FILM #

CONFIDENTIAL

83/11/05 Robert J. Sherman

50/54 ID # 060684

Registered as Robert J. Sherman. Was on CF as John Sherman. Only name difference is birthday. Name is 3 years difference in birthday. Entered as 4/49 made identification difficult. Have now entered complete name into E-file and deleted from MSMA issued credit # 007412

NAME __________

DATE 1-11-87

TIME _________

R/S-433
3/13/86-CIF-567r
Refer to your transmittal report no. 

☐ CREDIT NOTICE  ☐ DEBIT NOTICE

REGISTRATION  Unit No.  S0154  term 16 months

☐ Unit charter fee of $20.  Received $_________ required $_________.

☐ 1 Leaders (________ prepaid) @ $_________ each. Received $_________ required $_________.

☐ __________ Members (________ transfer) @ $_________ each. Received $_________ required $_________.

☐ __________ Members ___________________________ Leaders listed on transmittal form ___________________________ on application

☐ Transfers must pay $50 each.  Expiration given ___________________________ We have ___________________________

☐ Not on transmittal report  ☐ Duplicate entry  ☐ No application received.

☐ Correction made per your letter/telephone call ___________________________

☐ No reply to our defective registration notice dated ___________________________

☐ Returning ___________________________ ☐ Under Age  ☐ Over Age

BOYS’ LIFE  Term __________________ months

☐ Paid for ______ subscriptions; listed ______ subscriptions. Received $_________ required $_________.

☐ Incorrect fee: __________________ subscriptions.  ☐ Back issues are not available.

☐ Please check attached copy. Pay debit—Use credit or return with copy of the roster showing corrections needed.

☐________________________

Robert J. Allen

Please add or subtract the amount(s) indicated on your next transmittal in the proper column(s) and return the original.

| BILLING |
|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| Unit Charter Fee $_________ | Explorer $_________ | $_________ |
| Tiger Cub $_________ | Career Awareness Explorer $_________ | $_________ |
| Cub Scout $_________ | Leader $_________ | $_________ |
| Boy Scout $_________ | Boys’ Life $_________ | $_________ |
| Varsity Scout $_________ | Total $_________ | $_________ |

| CREDITING |
|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| Unit Charter Fee $_________ | Explorer $_________ | $_________ |
| Tiger Cub $_________ | Career Awareness Explorer $_________ | $_________ |
| Cub Scout $_________ | Leader $_________ | $_________ |
| Boy Scout $_________ | Boys’ Life $_________ | $_________ |
| Varsity Scout $_________ | Total $_________ | $_________ |

CONF000320
DYKES_L_000318
June 1, 1984

Mr. Robert L. Denlinger
Scout Executive
Algonquin Council, No. 241

PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL

SUBJECT: John Sherman

Dear Bob:

Thank you for the detailed information concerning the above Scouter. We have reviewed this case with our Attorney and have now placed this man on the Confidential File.

Sincerely,

Paul I. Ernst, Director
Registration Subscription & Statistical Service

tkf

cc: Northeast Region
February 5, 1984

Mr. Robert L. Henlinger  
Scout Executive  
Algonquin Council, No. 241

PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL

SUBJECT: John Sherman

Dear Bob:

Thank you for the detailed information concerning the above Scouter. We have reviewed this case with our Attorney and have now placed this man on the Confidential File.

Sincerely,

Paul L. Ernst, Director  
Registration Subscription &  
Statistical Service

tkj

cca: Northeast Region
CHILD MOLESTER SENT TO WALPOLE

Former Framingham scout leader gets 4 1/2-8 years, p. 12
7:17AM 020684

Paul:

This (I hope) is the last of the John Sherman business.

I would agree with the news clip (not the headlines) that he is sick and should not be sent to Walpole, I doubt if he will get out alive. What a waste of talent and energy... maybe someday all of us will learn. There is a better way to make him atone.

Hope all are well...

take care.

kjh

F. STARCN

FEB 10 1984

Kenneth J. Hesterberg
for wording of a section outlining how and when communities can use free cash.

The vote is currently stalled while sponsors debate an amendment to the measure, Nason said. That amendment would not affect Holliston, he said.

A second bill aimed at solving the town's fiscal crisis, applicable only

The town's fiscal woes are traced back to a November 1982 Town Meeting, when voters failed to earmark $350,000 for the stabilization fund.

Town officials apparently lost track of the $350,000 until June, when tax assessors—complying with state law—used the money to offset the 1982-83 tax rate.

(Continued on 8A)

Man admits to child-porn

By CHRISTINE DUNN
News County Bureau

CAMBRIDGE — A former Framingham youth leader admitted in court Wednesday that he took nude photographs of four Framingham boys and raped two of them earlier this year.

John Sherman, 32, changed his plea Wednesday at Middlesex Superior Court and admitted his guilt on charges of rape of a child, indecent assault and battery of a child, possession of obscene material, and distribution of obscene material.

Supreme Court Judge Richard S. Kelley said he will sentence Sherman on Dec. 16. Middlesex Assistant District Attorney Paul Kelley said he will recommend a six- to eight-year sentence at Walpole State Prison for Sherman.

William Homans, Sherman's defense attorney, deferred making a sentencing recommendation until the sentencing hearing next month. Homans said his client will be examined by a psychiatrist before sentencing.

Sherman refused to enter a guilty plea to a charge of rape of a child by force, and that charge will be filed without a change of plea.

Sherman also pleaded no contest to a charge that he fraudulently took two boys on a New Hampshire camping trip last May 13 with the intention of sexually assaulting them.

Although he admitted that he took the boys on the trip and took photographs of them in the nude, Kelley said he did not intend to harm the boys when he took them on the trip.

The charges involve four youths, all of whom are boys 12 and 13 years of age, Paul Kelley said in court.

Sherman admitted to the charge of rape of a child — which carries a maximum sentence of life imprisonment — when he admitted that he performed oral sex on two of the victims last June 3 in Framingham. He also admitted that he encouraged the same boys to perform sexual acts with each other as he took nude photographs of them on June 3.

Wearing a suit and a tie, Sherman spoke in a quiet voice as he answered questions from Judge Kelley.

Paul Kelley read aloud from written records of victims' statements in court. The victims were not present in the courtroom, but the parents of two of the boys were there.

The parents submitted a letter from their family counselor to Judge Kelley for consideration prior to sentencing.

Sherman, whose permanent residence is in North Woodstock, N.H., lived in Framingham prior to his arrest June 9.

Sherman was a Cub Scout den leader and assistant Boy Scout leader for many years in Framingham. Additionally, he is a former volunteer tutor at the Potter Road Elementary School, where each of the victims was a student, according to Paul Kelley.

Sherman is also a former youth group leader in the YMCA.

Sherman has also been indicted by a grand jury in New Hampshire on two charges of committing illegal sexual acts with two 13-year-old Framingham boys. He has pleaded innocent to those charges and is expected to appear in court next week.
Request to suppress evidence denied

By JONATHAN ROBBINS
News Staff Writer

CAMBRIDGE — An accused child molester suffered a legal setback Wednesday when a Middlesex Superior Court judge refused to suppress evidence seized during his arrest.

Attorneys for John Sherman, 32, of Framingham had filed a motion to suppress evidence seized during his arrest and also to disallow any statements he may have made to police during his arrest.

Sherman, a well known Framingham youth leader, was indicted earlier this year by a Middlesex County grand jury on 12 charges of sex offenses against five Framingham boys.

In a written opinion, Judge John Paul Sullivan threw out that request and ordered a trial date set, according to Assistant District Attorney Paul Kelley. He added that a trial date should be known within the next few days and that the state is ready to proceed at any time.

Sherman is also scheduled for trial in New Hampshire during the week of Oct. 31.

Sherman is a former youth group leader in the YMCA and scouting, and a former elementary school tutor.

The five alleged victims were 11 and 12 years old and all of the alleged offenses took place in Framingham, according to the indictments.

The 23-person grand jury issued the following indictments: rape of a child by force on June 3; three counts of statutory rape of a child on June 3 and other unspecified dates; and indecent assaulted and battery on a child under 14 years old on June 3.

Also, five counts of enticing for unlawful sexual intercourse on March 12, May 13, and May

(Continued on 4B)

Request denied

(Continued from 1B)

20.: and two counts of posing a child in nudity — taking photographs of two children on June 3.

An arraignment date has not been set.

Sherman is currently free on $3,000 bail set by Framingham District Court on charges stemming from a June 9 arrest by Framingham police, who charged him with enticing. A week later, he was charged with 11 other sex offenses against youngster.

He has also been indicted by a grand jury in New Hampshire on two charges of committing illegal sexual acts with two 12-year-old Framingham boys.

Sherman pleaded innocent at arraignment in June. He posted $5,000 bail set by that court.

A resident of 445 Potter Road, Framingham, until his arrest, Sherman has been charged with enticing local boys to his New Hampshire home for sex and taking photographs of nude boys.

Local police said they seized a camera containing photos of nude boys performing "explicit sexual acts" during a search of Sherman’s Framingham home.

Sherman was a Cub Scout den leader and assistant Boy Scout leader for many years.
June 29, 1983

Mr. K. J. Hesterberg
Council Executive
Algonquin Council, No. 241

PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL

Dear Ken:

Thank you for your letter of June 23 concerning the material on John Sherman. This will be very helpful to us and certainly enable us to refuse registration should this need arise.

A Confidential Record Sheet is being enclosed for your use. Please complete it as carefully as possible so that we may identify Mr. Sherman wherever he may move in the country.

When the trial takes place we would like to have the deposition including any sentencing which occurs. This will certainly strengthen our position for the future.

Sincerely,

Paul L. Ernst, Director
Registration, Subscription &
Statistical Service

sah

Enclosure

cc: Northeast Region
June 23, 1983

Mr. Paul Ernest
Registration & Fulfillment
National Office, BSA
1325 Walnut Hill Lane
Irving, Texas 75062

RE: John Sherman
445 Potter Road, Framingham, Ma.
Lost River Road, Woodstock, N.H.

Dear Paul:

As a follow up to our telephone conversation, find enclosed information gathered to date in regards to the above mentioned individual. Latest word is that the trial has been postponed until mid July. Additional allegations are forthcoming.

Note that the trial has not taken place nor has he been proven guilty. Our staff has spoken to the pack and troop committee chairpersons. Meeting scheduled for this evening (June 23) by pack for recruiting of new Cubmaster and will include District Commissioner and professional staff member for support. We will provide additional information as it becomes available.

Thank you for your help and cooperation. As always, best to you and yours.

Sincerely,

Kenneth J. Hesterberg
Council Executive

KJH: jmk
Enclosures

F. STARCN
JUN 2 7 1983
Conversation:

Morning of 6/14 — Reverend John Ambler, First United Methodist Church, Brook and Water Street, Framingham, MA

RE: John Sherman

It was determined that Reverend Ambler would talk to Edna Black first and then request John Sherman resign as Unit Leader. Should Reverend Ambler receive his resignation it was to be in writing and a copy forwarded to the council office containing a letter stating that Mr. Sherman had resigned and that the church was requesting council help in recruiting a new Cubmaster. Should Mr. Sherman not be willing to resign the church would then inform him that they, the church, wanted new leadership and that they were no way accusing him of any wrongdoing and thanking him for his past support. Then the council would help select new leadership.

Reverend Ambler was informed that Mr. Sherman called a meeting of the Pack and Troop committee on Friday evening at which commissioner Edna Black attended. Mr. Sherman told them he did not wish to hurt Scouting and would turn over his material to anyone. He had, according to Edna Black, received support from both committees.

Reverend Ambler was informed that on receipt of Mr. Sherman's resignation the council would forward copies of the resignation, newspaper articles, and all material to the National Office, Registration and Fulfillment Service.

Reverend John Ambler  H - 877 0949  C - 877 2151

Scouting Coordinator, George DiMatteo  872 9320

Pack Committee Chairman, Mike Jusell  877 6955
First United Methodist Church
Brook and Water Streets
Framingham, Massachusetts 01701
Telephone 617/877-2151

June 21, 1983

Mr. George DiMatteo, Scouting Coordinator
1st United Methodist Church
Brook & Water Streets
Framingham, Ma. 01701

Dear George:

We request that you work with all persons concerned to secure new leadership as follows:

Cubmaster, Cub Scout Pack #36.

Assistant Scoutmaster, Boy Scout Troop #36.

Your cooperation will be greatly appreciated.

Helen S. Lele
Chairperson
The Administrative Board

cc: Michael Jusell, Pack Committee Chairman
Bart Daniels, Troop Committee Chairman
Kenneth Esterberg, Council Executive
John Sherman

John Ambler
Pastor
To whom it may concern,

At this time, it is in the best interest of parties concerned that I step down from my role as Cubmaster of Pack 36, and assistant Scoutmaster of Troop 36 - both of Framingham.

I sincerely hope that my current affairs/problems do not hurt, involve, or damage the Scouting programs that I've been involved with.

My reason for joining the program was a simple one – to help teach kids "the right way" and to allow them to enjoy life to the fullest (through various trips, experiences, etc.).

It's unfortunate that there are so many parents who "don't have the time" to help their own kids. This is why Scouting is important. At least someone with an interest will help the kids.

I wish my successor all the luck and good fortune in the world. The programs CAN work – we've proven that!

I hope to always be available by phone if there are questions concerning the operation of either the Pack or Troop.

Sincerely,

John Sherman

*AS SENT TO: JACE TRUER COUNCIL OFFICE*
Trial set in boy enticement

FRAMINGHAM — A local man pleaded innocent Friday to charges that he enticed two 12-year-old boys to his New Hampshire home for sex.

John Sherman, 32, of 445 Potter Road, Framingham, and also of Lost River Road, North Woodstock, N.H., was arraigned on two counts of enticing a person for prostitution or sexual intercourse at Framingham District Court Friday morning.

Judge Anthony DiBuono set bail at $3,000 surety or $500 cash; Sherman opted for the $500 bail and was released, according to a court official. A trial date was set for June 17.

Sherman was arrested on a warrant at his Framingham home late Thursday night.

Police said that Sherman had enticed two boys from the Framingham area to visit his home in New Hampshire sometime in May. The youths did not tell their parents about the alleged incident until earlier this week, and the police were notified on Tuesday.

No money was believed to be exchanged, police said.

---

Soliciting prostitution alleged

FRAMINGHAM — A local man was jailed Thursday night on charges of enticing two area boys for prostitution, according to police.

John Sherman, 32, of 445 Potter Road, Framingham, and Lost River Road, North Woodstock, N.H., was arrested at 445 Potter Road at 11:30 p.m. on a warrant from Framingham District Court.

Police said the arrest stemmed from complaints by parents of two 12-year-old boys from the Framingham area that Sherman had attempted to entice the boys to visit his home in New Hampshire.

The incident allegedly took place in May, police said. The boys did not tell their parents until early this week, police said.

The warrant charged him with enticing a person for the purpose of prostitution or sexual intercourse and enticing a person away for the purpose of prostitution or sexual intercourse.

Sherman was held overnight and was scheduled to be arraigned today at Framingham District Court, police said.
Ex-Scout leader in court on sex charge

(Continued from 1A)

two counts of enticing a person away for prostitution or sexual intercourse.

After bail was set by Framingham District Court Judge Anthony DiBuono, Sherman's attorney, Susan Ghetti, of Framingham, said she would file for a bail-reduction hearing in Middlesex District Court.

Tuttle had asked Judge Anthony DiBuono for $100,000 double surety or $20,000 cash.

Ghetti said Sherman has no prior criminal record.

The attorney she said he was born in Boston, grew up in Chestnut Hill, spent one year at Boston University, majored in communications at Curry College, worked for RKO, moved to Framingham in 1973, and bought a house here in 1977.

Ghetti called the bail

"outrageous under the circumstances."

"There is not one reason to believe he won't be there (at the next hearing)," she said. "The notoriety of this case has basically destroyed my client's life."

Sherman, a long-time Cub Scout den master and volunteer at the Potter Road School, resigned both volunteer positions this week.

On the charges from last Friday, police said Sherman is accused of enticing two 12-year-old boys to a trailer at Lost River Road, North Woodstock, N.H., for sex.

Sherman was released last week on $500 bail, according to court records. He was arrested on a warrant at his Framingham home on June 9.

Although police say the incident took place sometime in May, the youths did not tell their parents until early June, according to police.

No money was believed to be exchanged, police said.

Sherman is also currently being investigated by state police in New Hampshire.

"We are conducting an investigation up here," said Sgt. Thomas Kennedy of the New Hampshire state police, who declined to elaborate.

Ken Hesterberg, council executive for the Algonquin Boy Scout Council in Framingham, said Sherman was a volunteer Cub Scout master for "a number of years."

"The man has not been proved guilty at this point. The organization is asking him to step aside until such time as this thing has been cleared up," Hesterberg said.

Sherman "has voluntarily stepped aside. We have a verbal resignation, and there is to be a written one," Hesterberg said this morning.

"As I understand it, it's nothing to do with Scouting," said. "It had nothing to do with his Scouting contacts."

Principal William Matthew Sherman worked as a volunteer at the Potter Road School at least 11-12 years.

"His appearance and at least always been very professional," Tuttle said. "It's always very professional."

Sherman worked at the school for approximately one to two hours per week, Matthews said.

Most recently, Sherman volunteered as a reading tutor, Matthews said. He also helped the children with their reading assignments, which aired over the school's public address system, as well as with television shows. He was involved in ski patrol during the winter months.

Former Scout leader in court on sex charges

By PAULA LOVEJOY

Framingham — A former Scout leader and grade-school volunteer pleaded innocent to 11 more complaints of sex crimes against juveniles today in Framingham district court.

John Sherman, 32, of 445 Potter Road, Framingham, was jailed at Billerica House of Corrections in lieu of $25,000 surety or $2,500 cash bail on charges which included statutory rape, sodomy, indecent assault and battery and enticing a person for the purpose of sex.

The case was continued until June 22.

The new complaints involve two victims who are both juveniles and involve a series of dates including March 12, May 7 and June 1, according to Middlesex Assistant District Attorney Felicity Tuttle.

His alleged victims were "apparently persons known to the defendant," Tuttle said.

The new complaints were filed during a pre-trial conference today which was scheduled last week when Sherman pleaded innocent to...

(Continued on 3A)

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Plaintiff's Exhibit 22
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police beat

Former scout leader, sex crime suspect, freed on bail

FRAMINGHAM — The former scout leader and grade school volunteer who pleaded innocent to sex crime charges in Framingham District Court Friday was released on bail that same day from the Middlesex County House of Correction at Billerica, an attorney for the firm defending him said.

John Sherman, 32, of 418 Potter Rd., Framingham, posted bail Friday afternoon and was allowed to leave the maximum security pretrial section of the prison, said Thomas Waldstein, a lawyer with the firm of Cohen and Gaffin, which is representing Sherman in the trial.

The charges against Sherman included statutory rape, sodomy, indecent assault and battery and enticing a person for the purpose of sex, according to records.

Susan Ghetti is the attorney assigned to Sherman's case, but she was out of town and unavailable for comment, Waldstein said.

Framingham District Court Judge Anthony DiBuono originally set bail at $25,000 surety or $2,500 cash, but Ghetti had protested and said she was going to file for a bail reduction hearing Monday.

Waldstein said he was unsure of how much bail Sherman paid.

Sherman's case was continued until June 23.

Charges had also been filed against Sherman on June 10 that he enticed two 12 year old boys to a trailer in New Hampshire for sex, according to police, who said he is being investigated by state police in New Hampshire.

police beat

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Former Cub Scout volunteer
in court today on sex charges

By PAULA LOVEJOY
News Staff Writer

FRAMINGHAM — A former
Scout leader and volunteer in a
local grade school was scheduled to
appear in district court this
morning on charges of enticing
local boys to his New Hampshire
home for sex.

John Sherman, 32, of 445 Potter
Road; Framingham pleaded
innocent at arraignment in
Framingham District Court last
Friday to two counts of enticing a
person away for prostitution or
sexual intercourse.

Judge Anthony DiBuono
continued the case until today,
when a conference was expected
between prosecutors and
Sherman's attorneys.

Sherman, a longtime Cub Scout
den master and volunteer at the
Potter Road School, resigned both
volunteer positions this week.

Police said Sherman is accused
of enticing two 12-year-old boys to a
trailer at Lost River Road, North
Woodstock, N.H., for sex.

Sherman was released on $500
bail, according to court records. He
was arrested on a warrant at his
Framingham home on June 9.

Although police say the incident
took place sometime in May, the
youths did not tell their parents
until early June, according to
police.

No money was believed to be
exchanged, police said.

Sherman is also currently being
investigated by state police in New
Hampshire.

"We are conducting an
investigation up here," said Sgt.
Thomas Kennedy of the New
Hampshire state police, who
declined to elaborate.

Ken Hesterberg, council
executive for the Algonquin Boy
Scout Council in Framingham, said
Sherman was a volunteer Cub
Scout master for "a number of
years."

"The man has not been proved
guilty at this point. The
organization is asking him to step
aside until such time as this thing
has been cleared up," Hesterberg
said.

Sherman "has voluntarily
stepped aside. We have a verbal
resignation, and there is to be a
written one," Hesterberg said this
morning.

"As I understand it, it had
nothing to do with Scouting," he
said. "I had nothing to do with any
of his Scouting contacts."

Principal William Matthews said
Sherman worked as a volunteer at
the Potter Road School "for at
least 11-12 years."

"His appearance and attitude
has always been very professional
here, so it's quite a shock,"

(Continued on 3B)

Former Cub Scout leader

(Continued from 1B)

Matthews said, "He's always been
very professional and
straightforward."

Sherman worked at the school
for approximately one to four
hours per week, Matthews said.

Most recently, Sherman was a
volunteer reading tutor, Matthews
said. He also helped the children
tape a monthly radio show that was
aired over the school's public
address system, as well as
videotaping television shows. He
also was involved in ski patrol
during the winter months.

"As I understand it, he was
advised not to be here; he hasn't
appeared here ... ever since the
initial news came out," Matthews
said.

When asked if there had been any
problems with Sherman, "To be
honest, nobody has complained to
me," Matthews replied.