

Highland Man Sentenced on Harassment Charges

(KNZA)--A Highland man convicted on 14 counts of harassment by a telecommunications device will have to serve 1 ½ years in jail.

Brown County Attorney Kevin Hill says 55-year-old Gary Vigil was sentenced Wednesday to a total of 168 months (14 years) in jail on the misdemeanor charges.

Hill says the Court denied Vigil's request for immediate probation and remanded him to the Brown County Jail to serve 18 months of his sentence prior to being released on probation for a period of 24 months.

Vigil was arrested in July following a lengthy investigation by the Hiawatha Police Department, which uncovered numerous victims, both locally and nationwide.

Hill says the investigation revealed Vigil would often impersonate family members of the victims being called, falsely describing involvement in sexual acts and the need for help from being victimized. He says the calls caused fear and concern for the victims being called.

Hill credited the work of the Mobile Forensics Unit of the Hiawatha Police Department and the extensive training that Investigator Mickey Gruber has received at the National Computer Forensics Institute in Hoover, Alabama from the U.S. Secret Service and Homeland Security for the successful resolution of the case.

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