

Hiawatha man charged with alleged sex, drug offenses

**(KNZA)--A Hiawatha man has been charged with alleged sex and drug offenses.**

**Brown County Attorney Kevin Hill filed a criminal complaint Tuesday in Brown County District Court charging 48-year-old Jeremy Stover with eight counts--including three felony counts of promoting the sale of sexual relations, three misdemeanor counts of sexual battery, a felony count of distribution of opiate and a misdemeanor count of possession of a depressant drug (Lorazepam).**

**Stover, who serves as President and CEO of Hiawatha-based Freedom Hospice, made his first appearance in a Brown County courtroom Tuesday afternoon on the charges.**

**He was arrested Saturday night following an investigation by the Brown County Sheriff's Office.**

**Brown County Sheriff John Merchant, in a release, said the arrest followed the execution of multiple search warrants over the weekend involving digital media and social media platforms.**

**Merchant said many hours were spent by the sheriff's office and Brown County attorney on the investigation, which remains ongoing.**

**A preliminary hearing has been scheduled for March 8.**

**Atchison attorney John Kurth was appointed by the court to represent Stover.**

**Stover remains free on a \$50,000 bond**

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