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## Office of the District Attorney Monroe County, Wisconsin

## **NEWS FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

February 5, 2024

## CASHTON MAN SENTENCED TO 31 YEARS IN PRISON FOR CHILD SEX CRIMES

SPARTA, Wis. – Today, Monroe County District Attorney Kevin Croninger announced Jerome Leuck, age 77, of Cashton was sentenced to 31 years in prison. He will be supervised by the Wisconsin Department of Corrections for 7 years following his release from prison.

Court documents show Leuck was charged in October 2020 with 14 child sex crimes. The case was tried to a Monroe County jury in January 2023, but a mistrial was declared after the jury was unable to reach a unanimous verdict. Leuck was tried again in November 2023 and found guilty.

Leuck was sentenced on February 2, 2024, by Monroe County Circuit Court Judge Richard Radcliffe. Leuck faced a mandatory minimum prison sentence of 25 years. Assistant District Attorney Sarah Skiles argued for a lengthy prison sentence that would have the effect of confining Leuck for the remainder of his life. During sentencing, Skiles commented the "State of Wisconsin now knows who [Leuck] really [is]" and he cannot hide in the darkness anymore. Skiles stated it was time to acknowledge the unvarnished truth that Leuck is "a pedophile, manipulator, deceiver, and child rapist." Skiles said Leuck will no longer hold the victim hostage with this case and that she will be free while Leuck lives out the remainder of his days in prison. Before handing down the prison sentence, Judge Radcliffe commended the victim, telling her that she was "brave" and "strong" and now had the justice she sought for over three years. Following sentencing, Leuck was taken into custody to begin serving his sentence.

ADA Skiles later stated, "We are grateful the sentence ordered by Judge Radcliffe is more than the minimum prescribed by law. It recognizes the seriousness of Leuck's actions and the profound negative impact of his conduct. This sentence ensures Leuck is forever removed from our community and cannot further victimize children."

The investigation of this case was handled by Detective John Brose of the Monroe County Sheriff's Office with assistance from social workers in the Department of Human Services from Monroe and Vernon Counties and the staff of Stepping Stones Child Advocacy Center. The prosecution of the case was handled by Assistant District Attorney Sarah Skiles through support and assistance of the staff of the Monroe County District Attorney's Office and with special thanks to Sara Kast, Anje Schmitz, and Investigator Andrew Kuen. Skiles praised the work of all involved, "The investigation and prosecution of this case required a collaborative multidisciplinary approach. An outcome like this would not have been possible without the hard work and dedication of each professional."

For more information on this case, please go to Wisconsin Circuit Court Access at https://wcca.wicourts.gov and search for Monroe County Case No. 2020CF000629. Please direct media inquiries to Kevin Croninger, Monroe County District Attorney, Monroe County District Attorney's Office at 608-269-8780 or monroe.call@da.wi.gov.



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