

LANE COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE 125 EAST 8th AVENUE, ROOM 400 EUGENE, OREGON 97401-2926 FAX ONLY (541) 682-3890 (541) 682-4261

NEWS RELEASE

| Date/Time of Release: | Tuesday, November 18, 2020 |
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| From: | Patty Perlow, District Attorney |
| Details: | Convicted Sex Offender Sent to Prison for New Crimes |

On September 30, 2020, detectives from Springfield Police Department arrested Springfield resident Richard Dale Evarts, age 62, for multiple counts of sexual abuse after two youth, ages 10 and 15, disclosed and reported they had been sexually abused by Evarts several times over the last few years.

Court records revealed that Evarts had been convicted of two counts of Sexual Abuse in the First Degree here in Lane County in 1993, for abuse of another youth. In that case, he was sentenced to eighteen (18) months in prison, as Ballot Measure 11 did not pass until the following year. After Evarts arrest this year, several additional members of the community confirmed historical sexual abuse by Evarts that was never reported to law enforcement.

Today, Evarts appeared before the Honorable Bradley A. Cascagnette in Lane County Circuit Court and pleaded guilty to two new charges of Sexual Abuse in the First Degree (one for each victim). The Court sentenced Evarts to one hundred fifty (150) months in prison for the new crimes. Evarts will not be eligible for any early release on that sentence. The prison term will be followed by almost four years of post-prison supervision. He will continue to have to register as a sex offender for life.

This office thanks SPD for a thorough investigation and the victims for the courage to come forward, and the other historical victims for coming forward in support of this arrest and prosecution. If there are additional victims of Richard Evarts in the community, we encourage them to contact Detective Terry Murray, SPD at (541) 726-2336.

Any additional questions regarding this case and press release can be directed to Deputy District Attorney Erik Hasselman at <u>Erik.Hasselman@lanecountyor.gov</u>.

Attached is a book-in photo of Evarts.

