

## Initial court hearings held for men recently charged with sex-related crimes

Written by Marty Randall  
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Initial hearings have been held in Scott Circuit Court for three men recently charged with sex-related crimes.

Hearings for George Hollon, 64, Austin, and DiAundre Newby, 18, Lexington, were conducted on June 24. The third man, Shawn W. Cardinal, 37, Scottsburg, had his hearing on June 26.

Preliminary pleas of not guilty were entered for each man. Initial jury trial dates of November 18 were also scheduled in each case.

Hollon has two Class A felony charges of child molesting and two Class C felony charges of child molesting filed against him as well as a Class A misdemeanor of patronizing a prostitute.

During his hearing, Hollon informed the court he planned to hire counsel. He filed a \$100,000 corporate surety bond that same day and was released to await his trial. A no contact order was filed against him to protect the alleged victim. On July 1, he advised the court that he had hired an attorney.

In Newby's case, he was assigned to a public defender, and a no contact order was entered to protect his alleged victim. His bail remains set at \$75,000 by corporate surety bond or \$15,000 by cash bail, and he remains in jail.

Officers had to search to find Cardinal but finally located him on June 24, and his initial hearing was held June 26. Bail was set at \$75,000 by corporate surety bond or \$15,000 cash and remained at those amounts despite a motion for detainer filed by the Prosecutor's Office. Cardinal was placed on a 15-day hold without bail.

His charges include three counts of Class C felony child molesting.

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Paperwork was also filed with the court by Det. Rick Barrett of the Sheriff's Department requesting that Cardinal be found to be a repeat sexual offender. Court records indicate that Cardinal was previously convicted of child molesting and sexual misconduct with a minor, both Class C felonies, in May and June of 2003.

Det. Barrett also filed an Habitual Offender notice against Cardinal.

He cited convictions in December, 2013; May, 2009; May, 2003; and June, 2003, of offenses that included failure to register as a sex or violent offender, receiving stolen property and the child molesting and sexual misconduct charges. Such a status can weigh against any sentence the court may consider, making his punishment more severe.