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Former priest sentenced to 60 days in jail

Posted by Michele Reaves September 10, 2007 3:10PM

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Celia Tobin / The Post-Standard

Francis DeLuca, 77, a former priest, listens to Judge Kate Rosenthal in handcuffs at the criminal courthouse in Syracuse Monday.

Former Catholic Priest Francis DeLuca will serve 60 days in jail for molestating a teenage boy in Syracuse, where he settled after retiring in Delaware.

DeLuca, 77, at first faced only probation, but City Judge Kate Rosenthal backed out of that deal. She said it appeared DeLuca had failed to understand the consequences of his conduct.

The judge sentenced DeLuca today to do six years' probation in addition to the jail time and declared him a Level 1 sex offender under the state's registry act.

http://blog.syracuse.com/news/2007/09/former_priest_sentenced_to_60.html

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DeLuca offered an apology in court to his family and friends. The he was taken into custody and sent to the Onondaga County Correctional Facility to begin his jail time.

DeLuca came to Syracuse in 1993, after he was dismissed from public ministry in Delaware. He was accused in Delaware of sexually abusing a minor 30 years earlier.

A man, who claims DeLuca molested him as a teenager in Delaware in the 1960s, was present in city court Monday afternoon to see the former priest sentenced.

Reporter Jim O'Hara was in court. Read his full report in Tuesday's Post-Standard.

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Posted by **bookworm23** on [09/10/07 at 3:40PM](#)

What possess people to do these things to children? There are plenty of people in this country would will let you do nasty things to them some with a fee some without so why children? I understand they are easy to manipulate and generally don't fight back but honestly, these poor children who grow into adults (some of them). Shame on him for working in the name of the Lord.

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Posted by **PalermoProud** on [09/10/07 at 5:28PM](#)

Strange... some get 60 days, some get 10 years. Hard to figure these judges. Sex with a child is sex with a child. Too bad this one did not get 10 years too. He would likely be dead before he got out to do anything again. Hope he gets plenty of what he was looking for in prison for his 60 days. Well, that would not be punishment to him I suppose. It would just be fun.

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Posted by **Traace** on [09/10/07 at 5:54PM](#)

Maybe it was because he was a priest he only got 60 days. If he were a reverend he most likely would not be that lucky!

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Posted by **wd40inlove** on [09/10/07 at 6:52PM](#)