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# Ex-Scout Executive Arraigned

By William B. Trembl

COURTS REPORTER

A former Boy Scout executive, at one time in charge of 17 Washtenaw County troops with over 500 members, has been charged with two counts involving criminal sexual conduct.

Frederick L. Sundling, 52, of Saline, is currently free on a \$25,000 bond on one of the charges, gross indecency with a 15-year-old boy. A second warrant charging Sundling with criminal sexual conduct, second degree, also has been obtained. That count involves a 12-year-old boy, authorities say.

Prosecuting Attorney William F. Delhey said the charges were brought against Sundling after a search warrant was obtained for his home at 622 Rosemont St. in Saline. Officers from the Saline Police Department searched the residence and, Delhey says, found numerous photographs showing homosexual activity and literature dealing with homosexual interests.

DELHEY SAID the investigation has unearthed a "wide-ranging" series of homosexual activities involving Sundling. And the prosecutor said on the basis of present evidence his office could charge Sundling with "30 or 40" criminal sexual counts involving teen-age boys.

"Many, but not all of the victims, were Boy Scouts at the time of the crimes and Sundling used his position as a Scout leader to entice the boys," the prosecutor said.

Delhey said the two cases now pending involve incidents which occurred at Sundling's home. Other incidents, Delhey added, are known to have occurred at Sundling's office at St. Joseph Mercy Hospital where he is employed as a substance abuse therapist, Delhey said.

IN 1961, SUNDLING came to Washtenaw County from the Upper Peninsula where he had served as assistant Boy Scout executive of the Hlawathaland Council in Marquette. He was named district Scout executive here for six county communities. They included Dexter, Chelsea, Manchester, Milan, Saline and Whitmore Lake.

In July, 1969, Sundling pleaded guilty in Circuit Court here to a charge of taking indecent liberties with a minor child. Three months later he was placed on five years probation and ordered to pay a fine of \$100 and court costs of \$200. A 30-day County Jail term was suspended on condition he continue medical treatment.

At the time of that conviction, Sundling was still a Scout executive, authorities said. Investigators say he has continued to work with the Boy Scout organization on a part-time basis although he no longer is a paid executive.

SUNDLING WAS arraigned Monday on the gross indecency charge before 14th District Court Judge Henry Arkison who set an examination date for May 19. The judge ordered the suspect to jail on a \$25,000 bond. He was released the following day when a bonding company posted the bond.

The second charge of criminal sexual conduct, second degree, was authorized by Delhey on Thursday. However, Sundling is not expected to be arraigned on that charge until he returns from northern Michigan on Monday. At that time he is scheduled to surrender himself to local authorities while accompanied by his attorney.

Sundling, married and the father of three children, has lived in Saline since being appointed district Scout executive in 1961. The Scout district to which he was assigned was a newly-created unit and one of four under the Portage Trails Boy Scout Council.

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