ıncil No.	230			]	Date	5/4/89	<del></del>
Full name	Rev. Walter N.	Stone	_ Leader	#	002543		
Social Security	y Number	N / A					
Address							
City Fitchb	urg · S.ta	te <u>Mass.</u>	Zip	Code	0142	0	
Date of Birth	9/32		(This is	impo	rtant an	d should b	e exact)
Religion P	rotestant		tionality		American		
Occupation	Minister						
Education	Boston Unive	rsity Theolo	gу			· <del>- · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·</del>	
Weight N/A	Heigh	t <u>5'0'</u>		Race _	Whit	e	
Color of hair	Brown/Baldi	ng Col	or of eyes	s	N/A		
Outstanding cha	aracteristics	or interests	N / A				
Married or sing	gle <u>Married</u>	_ Children	(number,	ages	and nam	es, if pos	sible)
opouse's name							
Scouting connec	ctions: Ch	artered orga	nization <u>l</u>	Rolls	tone Con	gregationa	1 Church
Unit City Tp. 41 Fits Co. 230 Land	y State chburg MA caster MA	Position Exec. Of Exec. Bo	ficer/MC ard	Da	te Regis 1979 1979	. Date S 5/ 5/	uspended 4/89 4/89
Special recogn:	ition Wood	Badge					
Suspended or de	enied registra	S	lowing readigned So	COUT I	EXECUTIV	E T	ttached)

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JOSEPH L ANGLIM

READY FOR FILE

NOV 23 1989

A. GRAVES

November 28, 1989

Mr. Steven W. Montgomery Scout Executive Nashua Valley Council, No. 230

PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL

SUBJECT: REV. WALTER N. STONE

Dear Steve:

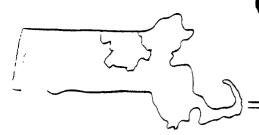
Thank you for the detailed information sent concerning the above Scouter. This case has been reviewed with our attorney and is now on our permanent Ineligible Volunteer File.

Sincerely,

Paul Ernst. Director Registration Service

ag

cc: Northeast Region



BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA, INC.

1980 Lunenburg Road

Lancaster, MA 01523

## <u>Memo</u>

To: Paul Ernst, Registration

From: Steven Montgomery, Scout Executive Re: Confidential File - Rev. Walter Stone

Date: November 9, 1989

Attached please find a newsrelease concerning the disposition of the case of Rev. Walter Stone.

Please contact me if additional information is required.



## Ex-pastor is convicted in sexual assault case

By Gary V. Murray Staff Reporter

A Fitchburg minister was sentenced to seven to 15 years in the state prison in Walpole yesterday after being convicted on charges of sexually molesting two boys.

A Worcester Superior Court jury deliberated for about two hours before convicting the Rev. Walter N. Stone, former pastor of the Rollstone Congregational Church in Fitchburg, on one count of rape

of a child under the age of 16, four counts of indecent assault and battery, one count of indecent assault and battery on a child under the age of 14 and two counts of committing an unnatural act with a child under the age of 16.

Judge Robert V. Mulkern allowed a defense motion for a required finding of not guilty on another count of rape of a child un-

Turn to MINISTER/Back of Section



## Minister sentenced to prison

Continued From Page One

der the age of 16 because the testimony regarding the charge did not coincide with the date of the offense as listed on the indictment.

The two victims, one now 21 and the other now 18, testified that they met the Rev. Mr. Stone as a result of their membership in the Rollstone Congregational Church. The Rev. Mr. Stone had been pastor of the church since 1979 and resigned in May of this year after the charges were filed against him.

The younger of the two victims testified that he began attending weekly counseling sessions with

masturbated him three or four times a week with his consent.

Consent was an issue on the indecent assault and battery charges because it was Assistant District Attorney Thomas E. Landry's burden to prove beyond a reasonable doubt that the victims did not consent to the acts.

In his instructions to the jury, Mulkern said the age of the victim was a "crucial factor" to consider in determining the question of consent.

Consent could not be used as a defense on the child rape and unnatural act charges because the law does not recognize the possibility of a natural act.

Concord State Prison sentence with a portion of the sentence to be served and the balance suspended with probation. Brekka suggested that as a condition of probation, his client be required to undergo counseling.

Brekka said the Rev. Mr. Stone, who grew up in Gardner, is 56 years old, has been married for 25 years and is the father of four children. Brekka said his client is an Air Force veteran and a graduate of West Virginia Wesleyan College. He said the Rev. Mr. Stone holds a doctorate in theology from Boston University, is an ordained minister and worked at several churches before coming to Rollstone Congregational.

After his arrest, the minister admitted himself to McLean Ucceient

October 10, 1989

READY FOR FILE

~ - :::33

Mr. Steven W. Montgomery Scout Executive Nashua Valley Council, No. 230 A. GRAVES

PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL

SUBJECT: Rev. Walter D. Stone

Dear Steve:

I know the above named individual was charged with sex crimes, and wondered if the legal action had now been completed.

I know these things sometimes move very slowly, but if there has been a conviction and sentencing we would like to have this for our file. This would then give us all the information we need for having a permanent file.

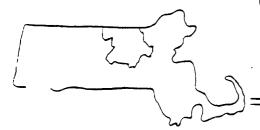
Thanks for your help.

Sincerely,

Paul Ernst, Director Registration Service

ag

cc: Northeast Region



BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA, INC.

1980 Lunenburg Road

Lancaster, MA 01523

July 17, 1989

Mr. Paul Ernst National Council, BSA/Registration 1325 Walnut Hill Lane Irving, Texas 75062-1296

Re: Rev. Walter Stone Fitchburg, MA 01420

Dear Paul,

Per your request, we will keep you updated on the status of this situation. Thank you for your assistance.

Yours in Scouting,

Steven Montgomery

Scout Executive



## Stone indicted on sex charges

By Roger Gaboury Staff writer:

FITCHBURG.— The Rev. Walter Stone was indicted on 12 counts of sexual assault and abuse by a Worcester County grand jury Wednesday, bypassing a scheduled district court hearing, according to an assistant district autorney.

The former pastor of the Rollstone Congregational Church, who had served there 10 years before resigning in light of his arrest, still faces all of the charges that Fitchburg police brought against him after their investigation into a complaint by a family member of one of the alleged victims.

Stone, of 43 Blossom St., was scheduled for a probable cause hearing in Fitchburg District Court this morning but Assistant District Attorney Mike Coughlin said the district attorney decided to take the "direct indictment," route.

The decision meant bringing the evidence and testimony first to the grand jury instead of through a probable cause hearing in the district court. A district court hearing is usually held to determine if there is probable cause to further try a defendant on charges before sending the case to the grand jury and the superior court level.

Neither Assistant District Attorney Thomas Landry, who is scheduled to prosecute the case, nor a District Attorney John Conte were available for comment on the case.

Stone faces four counts of indecent assault and battery on a person over age 14, four counts of rape, three counts of rape of a child, two counts of sodomy and one count of indecent assault and battery on a child under 14.

The 57-year-old reverend has pleaded not guilty to all charges in district court.

Coughlin said this morning that procedure calls for the charges to be dismissed at the district court level once the defendant is arraigned in Superior Court.

A status report is scheduled in Fitchburg District Court for July 27 to see if Stone has been arraigned, Coughlin said.

Stone was arrested May 4 following a complaint by a family-member of one of the alleged victims. The charges stem from alleged incidents spanning 1982 through 1986 involving Stone's ministry and his affiliation with the Boy Scouttroop at the church

Stone's membership with the Boy-Scouts organization has since been suspended.

# Minister indicted on sex abuse charges

By Peter B. Nugent

child sexual abuse charges. Stone of Fitchburg yesterday on A Worcester County grand jury indicted the Rev. Dr. Walter N.

charges of The grand jury indicted Stone on

- Indecent assault and battery on a child on or about Feb. 15, Indecent assault and battery
- about April 7, 1982, to about Dec. with a child on various dates from and committing an unnatural act 31, 1982
- about Jan. 1, 1983, to about Dec. with a child on various dates from and committing an unnatural act 31, 1983 Indecent assault and battery
- and rape of a child on various about Dec. 31, 1985. dates from about Jan. 1, 1985, to Indecent assault and battery
- Indecent assault and battery

;

about Dec. 1, 1986; all in Fitch-burg. detes from about Jan. 1, 1986, to and rape of a child on various

was canceled because of the indictment. The case will be heard in District Court for a probable cause to appear yesterday in Fitchburg in Fitchburg, had been scheduled Rollstone Congregational Church Worcester Superior Court. Stone, the former minister of

Stone had been the pastor of Rollstone Congregational Church since March 1979. He resigned the day charges were filed against

raignment date has not been Brekka of Worcester, sald an arscheduled in Superior Court. Stone's lawyer, Kenneth

not guilty, but other than that, he has no other comment at this time," Brekka sald "He's going to enter a plea of

Charges were filed May 4 by

church and Boy Scout Troop 41, which has been sponsored by the Fitchburg Police Chief Edward J. Gallant Jr. said the alleged vicchurch for 42 years. tims included members of the

case reaches Superior Court. expect that to change once the were filed. Brekka said he does not sonal recognizance since charges Stone has remained free on per-

other people yesterday in its fifth rior Court Judge William C. O'Nei report of the July session to Supe The grand jury also indicted five

The panel also returned a no bill

were made against Stone by famiand after evidence was found in ly members of an alleged victim Fitchburg police after complaints the Rollstone Congregational Church. Police would not say what the evidence was.

after he was questioned about the complaints. Stone turned himself in to police



## BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA

National Office 1325 Walnut Hill Lane P.O. Box 1520<u>79, Irving, Texas</u> 75015-2079

May 15, 1989

Mr. Steven W. Montgomery Scout Executive Nashua Valley Council, No. 230

PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL

SUBJECT: Walter N. Stone

Dear Steve:

We appreciate the material you recently sent concerning the above named individual. This is most helpful as we build a file in order to refuse registration in the future.

We would like a document with Rev. Stone's signature, if you have this available, as this aids in the identification process. Otherwise the Confidential Record was very complete.

Thanks for the newspaper article which you sent. We would like to be kept informed as the legal action takes place. We eventually will want the outcome of that legal action. This would then give us the material necessary for our file.

Sincerely.

Paul Ernst, Director Registration Service

ag

cc: Northeast Region

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MA 01420 01/46

MA 01420 09/39

FITCHBURG

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## Child rape allegec

## Pastor charged

By Roger Gaboury Stall willer

abuse charges were brought Numerous child rape and cidents that have spanned vesligation into alleged in-Stone Monday after an ngainst the Rev. Dr. Walter to the police chief our to five years, according Ξ

unifin untittif

crimes that are "just a repwith 12 counts of various sex gregational Clutrely for the Gallant resentation" of Police Chief Edward pastor of Rollstone ions against him, said Stone, who has been the 10 years, is charged The affects

numerous to address," he "The frequency of the oc-

After police talked to Stone at the start of the in REV. WALTER STONE

STONE, Page 11

## Parish is united

By Scoll McLennan Staff writer

gregational Church expressed pain, but offered comof sexual misconduct. passion Monday when reacting to news that their astor had stepped down last week amidst allegations FITCHBURG - Parishioners of the Rollstone Con

the church after turning himself in to police to face a arge of indecent assault and battery on a child under The Rev Wallet Slone resigned Thursday as minister

Traubled Parisi - Parishioners at the Rollstone Craother following the resignation of the church's pastor allonal Church are pulling ingellier to comfoil ec the process in the state of the Stall photo by Belli Berginan

PARISH, Page 11

Church.

investigation prompted them to file Police said yesterday a further 14 Years old.

a child under the age of 16; three 14; two counts of rape and abuse of person who has altained the age of of indecent assault and battery on a more charges, including four counts

Police Chief Edward Gallant said connis of rape; and two counts of

church, Gallant said. Boy Scoul Groop sponsored by the ministry and his affiliation with the month his work with them in the allegedly knew the assault victims a period of four to five years. Stone trom incidents that took place over the charkes against Stone stem

assistant reverend at the Rollstone soid Kolbleen Ennis-Durstine, brior to church services on Sunday, some of the circumstances behind it of their pastor's resignation and Stone's 300 parishioners were told

mere's blenth of Rood here's spethe good that is still bere. And family of God, and hanging on to They are pulling logether, being a The church has been wonderful.

over the last 10 years. tor much of the church's growth dismay, said Stone is responsible Parishioners, while expressing

ter our support to bim and his fami to kears perore this, and we now of-The's given us a lot of support for

involve a Boy Scout, but formcharges against Stone likely did n we feel very sympathetic," she The recent allegations to prom "As a congregation we hurl, but ly," said parishioner Phyllis Smith.

the Central Massachusetts (5)

Rev. Richard Spero, an official wr

church member and former deacon

Leonard Allen, another longth

last weekend, according to t

ed Sunday services at the chur-

ners was apparently mixed wi

was very involved with the con

(smilles belonging to the church, t

to the acout thoub, most came tru-

organization most of his adult in

volved with the Boy Scout

its operations. Stone has been i

the troop's leaders and overseen

church is responsible for selectiv

police on the continuing investig

and the council is working ni

organization has been suspende

st communities served by the B.

Upe have never been raised in II

centive council. Accusations of the

director of the area's Boy Scout e

cording to Steven Montgomer

been victims of sexual assault, a

scong trom the troop may have

Stone's membership with th

By sponsoring a scout troop, it

Of the roughly 25 boys belongn

"Quite frankly I'm shocked 1

Confusion and curiosity.

Montgomery said

tion, Montgomery said.

Scout council here, he said,

munity," Montgomery said

An unusually large crowd aften

The shock for Stone's parism

The sermon, delivered by (t

has left all judgments of Stone up to The church's board of trusfees

the court system.

for members of Rev. Stone's family press our compassion and concern "At this point we can only ex-

church board of trustees. Robert Beck, chairman of the and members of the church," said

. เรอฐาหล่ว ๆไป ticists will not be commenting on court's jurisdiction, and church of cerning Stone's resignation are the Beck added that all matters con-

occume expansion by his pasional and she suspected the minister (m ned his back on a church project, ior anonymity, said Stone never One longlime parishioner, asking

that he burned out. Why it turned in Lipe only reason I can give is

The parishioner added: "We know," she said the direction if did, no one will ever

and handsome, and it was all due to thought we were thing wide, high

.ทอได้มูมเอา2 (ที of the First Congregational Church Marthoro, M.H., and was ordained minister at the Federated Church in 1979 He previously served as a came to Rollstone Church in March Stone, 57, of 443 Blossom St.,

Scout troop sponsored by the organizations, among them the Boy Stone became active in many city

> alleged victims who is also a church from a family member of one of the

Cullant stressed that the inmember.

there may be additional victims. dents is continuing, and he believes vestigation into the nileged incl-

court iast Thursday. on the initial felony charge in the recognizance affer being arraigned He was released on his own Fitchburg District Court next week. on the new charges in a hearing at Stone is expected to be arraigned

ented as evidence in court, Gallant the church last week will be pres-Rems confiscated in a search of

tacility. although he did not know at which under going psychiatric counselling, He said Stone is presently

with church and Boy Scouts of surest and has been in consultation to inform and advise them on the bast and present charch members The chief said he has met with

Stone

time, Stone was arrested on a investigators, Gallant said, At that come to the police station to talk to lear old reverend volunteered to restigation last Thursday, the 57-Continued from Page !

comits of rape and two counts of and abuse of a child under 16, three son H or older, two counts of rape cent assault and battery on a peray with four counts of indeg was additionally charged Gaetz and Detective Paul Aiest, estikation led by L. Kenneth Callant said that after further in-Digs laids

and battery on a child under 14, the

rejoul, charge of indecent assault

Boy Scout troop at that church." off this notalities affiliation with the sig., glacins quinais pallage Callant said that Stone knew the rimes against nature (sodomy).

chburg, including Stone's 413 thurch and in other places in Fitcreats reportedly took place in the The chief said some of the alleged

geont froob that the church spon ensheaded from overseeing the Boy tional Church and has been ningtion to Rollstone Conkreks. Stone has since turned in his res-Blossom St. home.

meseigation fast Thursday came the complaint that sparked the ha in the affeged incidents, but talland refused to discuss the

## Local news

## Groups

## amming 1

By Peter B. Nugent

FITCHINUNG — Local youth leaders, stunned by last week's revelation that a Fitchburg Congregational minister has been charged with 12 counts of child sexual abuse, say their organizations have taken steps in recent years to combat such abuse.

Steven Montgomery, Scout executive for the Nashoba Valley Boy Scout Council, said the Boy Scouts nationwide have instituted a program designed to prevent child abuse — sexual, physical and psychological — both inside and outside their organization.

The Nashoha Valley Council oversees Boy Scout Troop 41, to which some or all of the alleged victims in the recent abuse case belonged, according to police. The Rev. Dr. Walter N. Stone, 57, of the Rollstone Congregational Church, has been charged with one count of indecent assault and battery on a child under 14, four counts of indecent assault and battery on a child

over 14, two courts of rape and abuse of a child under 16, three counts of rape and two counts of sodomy.

## WAS SUSPENDED

Montgomery said Stone, who has lived in Fitchburg for 10 years, was immediately suspended as a member of the Troop 41 advisory committee after the charges against him were revealed. Montgomery said he has learned that none of the alleged abuses occurred during Scouting activities.

Police have provided no details of the alleged assaults except to say they resulted from activities connected with Stone's "ministry and affiliation with the Boy Scout troop at the church," and that some abuses allegedly occurred in the church during counseling sessions.

For several years, Montgomery said, the Boy Scouts have had strict regulations involving the interaction between Scouts and Scout leaders, which would have

here's very li alone with a child. V

thing.

made interaction betwee and any troop members or impossible during schetivities. He said the regular clude the requirement adults: always be pressecuts are either meetically volved in Scouting activalso said leaders are a from meeting one-on-secuts.

"For this type of action, the person involved huncomfortable, and we're create an environment it them feel uncomfortable,

The child abuse prever

May 15, 1989

Mr. Steven W. Montgomery Scout Executive Nashua Valley Council, No. 230

PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL

SUBJECT: Walter N. Stone

Dear Steve:

We appreciate the material you recently sent concerning the above named individual. This is most helpful as we build a file in order to refuse registration in the future.

We would like a document with Rev. Stone's signature, if you have this available, as this aids in the identification process. Otherwise the Confidential Record was very complete.

Thanks for the newspaper article which you sent. We would like to be kept informed as the legal action takes place. We eventually will want the outcome of that legal action. This would then give us the material necessary for our file.

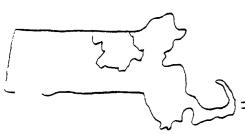
Sincerely,

Paul Ernst, Director Registration Service

ag

cc: Northeast Region

READY TO FILE MAY 1 6 1989 ERIN O'RILEY



BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA, INC.

1980 Lunenburg Road

Lancaster, MA 01523

## Memo

To:

Paul Ernst

Steven Montgomery, Scout Executive

Rev. Walter Stone/Membership Suspension

Date: 5/9/89

The attached news article is in support of the materials previously sent to you concerning Rev. Walter Stone.

Yours in Scouting,

Steven Montgomery

Scout Executive



## Minister resigns amid abuse charges

Continued From Page One

under 14. Yesterday he was charged with four counts of indecent assault and battery on a child over 14, two counts of rape and abuse of a child under 16, three counts of rape and two counts of sodomy.

Stone was released on personal recognizance for appearance in Fitchburg District Court May 16.

Gallant said Stone is undergoing psychiatric counseling at an undisclosed location.

Kathleen Ennis Durstine, associate minister of the Rollstone Congregational Church, 199 Main St., said Stone resigned as minister of the church last Thursday. She said church officials accepted the resignation, and the Rev. Richard Sparrow, associate conference minister for the Massachusetts Conference United Church of Christ, was brought in to help the church recover from the revelation

## RESPONSE

"There's been a wonderful effort on the part of the Rev. Richard Sparrow to begin the healing process and a wonderful response from the parishioners and the members of the community to these concerns," she said.

Rev. Durstine said a lawyer from the Massachusetts Conference United Church of Christ has advised church members not to discuss the charges against Stone. She said the charges came as a surprise to her.

Chuck Funk, scout master of Boy Scout Troop 41, which has been sponsored by Rollstone Church for 42 years, said Stone was immediately suspended as a member of the troop's advisory committee after scouting officials learned of the charges against him on Thursday. Funk said no determination has been made on what will be done to help the troop

members cope with the situation.

"There have been numerous meetings held, and it's still under discussion what the troop is going to do," he said.

## DISCUSSION

Gallant said police met with church members and Boy Scout leaders on Sunday to discuss the charges against Stone. He said the meeting was an emotional one.

"We understand that the issue is a sensitive one. There are many good parishioners who are deeply affected," he said.

Steven Montgomery, scout executive for the Nashoba Valley Boy Scout Council, to which Troop 41 belongs, said the council acted quickly to suspend Stone because of the strong stand the Boy Scouts of America has taken on the issue of child sexual abuse.

"The Boy Scouts nationally will not tolerate any kind of activity of that kind," he said.

## QUESTIONED

Gallant said police first questioned Stone after the initial complaints were made last Thursday. Later the same day, he said, Stone came to police headquarters on his own and was charged. Gallant said police then obtained a search warrant for the church, where unidentified evidence was seized resulting in additional charges.

Gallant said the charges represent only a portion of the complaints made against Stone. "The frequency and occurrence of the crimes are too numerous to address," he said.

In most cases, Gallant said, the alleged sexual assaults happened during counseling sessions between Stone and the victims. He said Stone personally knew all the victims.

Gallant said the investigation is continuing.

Stone had been pastor of the

Rollstone Congregational Church since March 1979. Before that he was pastor of the Federated Church in Mariborough, N.H., and before that he was at the First Congregational Church in Stoughton, where he was ordained. He is originally from Central Falls, R.L.

## Minister charged in rapes

Boy Scouts, others are alleged victims

By Peter B. Nugent Staff Reporter

FITCHBURG — The Rev. Dr. Walter N. Stone, a Congregational minister in the city for 10 years, has been charged by police with rape and sexual abuse involving children who were either members of Rollstone Congregational Church or members of a Boy Scout troop at the church.

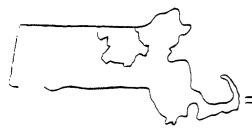
Police Chief Edward J. Gallant Jr. said an investigation of complaints against Stone began last week after family members of an alleged victim came forward. Gallant said the case involves complaints "too numerous to enumerate" of rape and sexual abuse that allegedly occurred over the last four to five years.

"The events that we allege occurred over several years, having to do with Rev. Stone's ministry and affiliation with the Boy Scout troop at the church.

"Some of the events allegedly occurred in the church and at other places in Fitchburg," Gallant said.

## CHARGED

Stone was initially charged last Thursday with one count of indecent assault and battery on a child



BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA, INC.

1980 Lunenburg Road

Lancaster, MA 01523

Phone

May 5, 1989

Mr. Paul Ernst
Registration Service
National Office
Boy Scouts of America
1325 Walnut Hill Lane
P.O. Box 152079
Irving, Texas 75015-2079

Dear Paul,

In reference to my phone call of 5/4/89 regarding Rev. Walter Stone, attached please find the required confidential record sheet and related information.

The Nashua Valley Council suspended Rev. Stone's registration per the procedures outlined in the Standards of Leadership manual on 5/4/89.

The justification for this action was based on notification by a member of the troop committee and the parent of two former scouts (current ages 18 & 21) that sexual abuse charges had been filed by these two former scouts against Rev. Stone.

Additional information will be forwarded as available. Please advise as to additional required procedural items. Thank you.

Yours in Scouting,

Stem mariany

Steven Montgomery Scout Executive



## WATS CALL FORM

CALL BACK REQUESTED
COUNCIL # 230 PHONE NO:
CALLER: BORDEN POSITION: SE SE.
TYPE OF PROBLEM  REGISTRATION
SCOUTINGBOYS' LIFE
UNIT # DIST. # EXP. DATE TRANSMITTAL # -FILM #
RELIEVED OF ROPONSIBILITIES (N
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FITCHBURG, MA BOARD
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