

BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA

*idop  
Bis Brothers  
Comm. 11/15/88  
C. H. P. D.*

DATE 4/19/88

FULL NAME William Ray Hennicott Jr. SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER 7-  
(No initials if you can possibly get full name)

ADDRESS [REDACTED] *(Now resides in Montgomery)*  
CITY Hoover STATE Alabama ZIP CODE 35216

DATE OF BIRTH \_\_\_\_\_ (This is important and should be exact)

APPROXIMATE AGE 24 years (To be used ONLY when date of birth is not known)

RELIGION BAPTIST NATIONALITY American

OCCUPATION FT+T

EDUCATION College Degree - Miss A/A

WEIGHT 175 lbs HEIGHT 5'8" RACE white

COLOR OF HAIR Dark Brown COLOR OF EYES Blue

OUTSTANDING CHARACTERISTICS OR INTERESTS \_\_\_\_\_

MARRIED OR SINGLE CHILDREN \_\_\_\_\_

NAME OF SPOUSE \_\_\_\_\_ (Number, ages, and names, if possible)

SCOUTING CONNECTIONS:

UNIT #	CITY	STATE	POSITION	DATE REGISTERED	DATE RESIGNED
NONE					

SPECIAL RECOGNITION \_\_\_\_\_

SUSPENDED OR DENIED REGISTRATION FOR FOLLOWING REASONS:

CONFIDENTIAL

APR 25 1988

NOTED

F. STARON

APR 28 1989

SPECIFY THE FACTS WHICH LEAD YOU TO RECOMMEND DENIAL OF REGISTRATION AND LIST ATTACHED SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS (ONLY KNOWN FACTS, NOT RUMOR, CONJECTURE OR SPECULATION):

JOSEPH L. ARCHER  
youth Director of Green Valley Baptist church released Him from church related ACTIVITIES due to charges of Sexual Abuse from several youths and from Bis Brother + Bis Sisters.

Signed Jim Tucker  
SCOUT EXECUTIVE

[REDACTED] Bill Hogan youth minister  
Green Valley Baptist

Council 002

May 1, 1989

Mr. James C. Tinker  
Scout Executive  
Birmingham Area Council, No. 2

PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL

SUBJECT: William Ray Hunicutt

Dear Jim:

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 Confidential File.

Sincerely,

Paul Ernst, Director  
Registration Service

ako

cc: Southeast Region

READY TO FILE  
MAY 02 1989  
ERIN O'RILEY

CONF020579

Style: L. Rushing Ct. Rept

Page Number \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_ Pages

DATE

ACTIONS, JUDGMENTS, CASE NOTES

DEC 16 1988

The Defendant being called before the Court accompanied by his counsel, and the defendant, his counsel, and the Court, having then and there executed "Court's Exhibit A and B, which said Exhibits are hereby incorporated herein and made a part hereof as if fully set forth at length herein and the defendant now stating to the Court that he has read said Exhibits or has had said Exhibits read to him by his counsel and that he fully understands said Exhibits and has no questions about same, the Court finds that the defendant is represented by competent counsel and that defendant has a full understanding of his plea of guilt and is intelligently and voluntarily entering his plea of guilt with a full understanding of the nature of the charge and the consequences of his plea.

DEC 16 1988

Defendant waives a jury trial and pleads guilty to Articling a Child ~~with intent to injure~~ as charged by information filed by the District Attorney.

DEC 16 1988

The Court accepts defendant's plea, and defendant is adjudged to be guilty as charged.

The defendant being called before the Court for sentence and asked whether he has anything to say as to why sentence should be not be pronounced against him says no

It is the judgment and sentence of the Court that the defendant be imprisoned in the penitentiary for a term of 1 year and 10 days and it is hereby ordered that the defendant be credited with all of his actual time spent incarcerated in the Jefferson County Jail pending trial of this cause unless he was serving time for another offense.

DEC 15 1988

Defendant ordered to pay a fine of \$ 2500, payable to the Circuit Clerk for and on behalf of Alabama Crime Victim's Compensation Commission.

This offense occurred on 5-1-87

After conviction or plea of guilty, you have the right to appeal.

DEC 15 1988

This cause having previously been referred to the Probation Officer of Jefferson County for investigation, and the report of his investigation having been made to and considered by the Court, the sentence in this cause is hereby suspended and defendant placed on probation for a term of 2 years, pending the good behavior of the defendant. The defendant is required to pay the Court cost

W. H. [Signature]  
District Judge  
unimpaired

2-3-89  
[Signature]  
Judge



SCOUTING/USA

W.R. HARRICOTT

From the desk of...

James C. Tinker  
Scout Executive

4/24/89

Personal and Confidential

TO: Mr. Paul Ernst, Director  
Registration Service  
National Council, BSA

Paul,

Enclosed is the material your requested. I  
hope this concludes our obligation for ongoing  
investigation.

Sincerely,

Jim Tinker  
Scout Executive

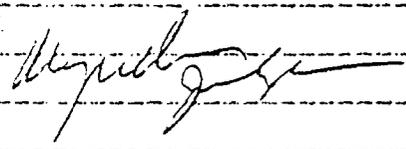
ns  
Enclosure

CONF020581

12/2/88 Indictment. (lm)

N/A

10/10/87 NOLE PROSEQUI RECOMMENDATION OF DISTRICT ATTORNEY



# Sex abuse charged to youth leader in Hoover

By Kent Faulk  
News staff writer

A Hoover man who was involved in a youth program at his church and served as a volunteer with Big Brothers has been charged with sexually abusing at least two youths.

William Ray Hunnicutt Jr., 23, of [redacted], Hoover, was arrested last Friday by Hoover police on warrants filed at the Jefferson County Courthouse in Bessemer, authorities said.

Hunnicutt was booked into the Jefferson County Jail on two counts of child abuse, one count of sodomy and a charge of enticing a child for immoral purposes, according to a jailer.

He was released on \$125,000 bond Tuesday afternoon after a bail hearing before Bessemer Circuit Court Judge Dan Reynolds, authorities said. His bond had earlier been reduced from \$325,000 by Bessemer District Court Judge J.W. Patton, officials in the Bessemer District Attorney's office said.

Roger Appell, Hunnicutt's attorney, said he couldn't comment and had advised Hunnicutt not to talk with reporters. "We haven't had an opportunity to investigate it (the charges)," he said.

Laura Holt, juvenile officer with the Hoover Police Department, said the investigation is continuing and declined to comment about the present case. She referred inquiries to Lt. Nick Derris, who couldn't be reached by phone for comment Tuesday.

Woody Rodgers, deputy Jefferson County district attorney for the Bessemer Cutoff, said Tuesday that there are now at least two victims — both in their early teens — involved in the cases. "There are potentially a number of victims," he said.

Hunnicutt, a karate instructor, participated in Big Brothers of Greater Birmingham Inc. and was involved in a youth program at Green Valley Baptist

He said he didn't know if any of the victims were involved in any of those activities.

But officials at the church were notified of a potential problem when Hunnicutt was arrested, Rodgers said. "They'd been suspicious and said they'd been limiting his contact with young people," he said.

Attempts to contact church officials by phone Tuesday were unsuccessful.

Rogers said he didn't know if officials with the Big Brothers program had been notified, but "if they haven't they will (be)."

Mike Falligant, director of the Big Brothers program, said Tuesday night that Hunnicutt was terminated from the program in September when leaders became aware of a potential problem and the investigation by the Hoover Police Department.

"In fact, we were instrumental" in helping police begin their investigation, Falligant said.

He said Hunnicutt became a "big brother" last spring, and until he was terminated from the program he had only dealt with one child, Falligant said he doesn't know if that child is connected with any of the current or potential cases against Hunnicutt.

"We've been in business 15 years and this has never happened," Falligant said.

He said he believes the Big Brothers program has one of the most comprehensive screening processes of any social service organizations.

The process:

- An orientation session is held for those interested in the program.

- The applicant then provides information which includes three personal references plus an employer reference, all of which are checked.

- A check is made to see if the person has a criminal history.

- Program officials then have a personal interview with the candidate, which lasts an average of an hour and a half.

- A visit is then made to the person's home.

- The applicant is then given program training.

- Once the volunteer is paired with a child, monthly checks are made with all participants during the first year.

- After the first year the checks are made bi-monthly.

"I feel like we do all we can conceivably do" to screen applicants for the program, Falligant said. "Obviously we're going to look to see if there's something further we can do."

MEMORANDUM

TO: JAMES C. TINKER

FROM: MAC GANT

SUBJECT: WILLIAM RAY HUNNICUTT, JR.

Some time ago you asked that I look into the charges against the above named individual, who had been charged with child abuse. It took some time to run down the jurisdiction in which the charges were brought and all the matters have not yet been concluded but here is what has transpired since the charges:

1. All charges including sexual abuse, sodomy and enticing a minor into a dwelling for immoral purposes were brought in the Bessemer Division of the Jefferson County Courts.
2. One of these charges were transferred to the Birmingham Division for disposition. In that case for "enticing a child to enter for immoral purposes" Hunnicutt pled guilty and was sentenced to 1 year and 1 day in prison and ordered to pay \$25.00 to the Crime Victims' Compensation Fund. The sentence was suspended and Hunnicutt was put on two-year insupervised probation. He is now on that probation. SEE EXHIBIT #1.
3. The other charges of child abuse, sodomy 1st degree and sexual abuse 1st degree, were handled in the Bessemer Division and the District Attorney asked that the charges be dismissed (Nolle Prosequi). So these cases are now over. SEE EXHIBITIS #2, #3 AND #4.
4. Another case of "enticing children for immoral purposes" was brought in the Bessemer Division. In that case Hunnicutt pled guilty and was sentenced to two years in prison. On March 7, 1989 that case was reset for hearing and I am advised by the Deputy Circuit Court Clerk that a hearing will be held on April 25, 1989 on a petition for probation. SEE EXHIBIT #5.

It would be my opinion that the more serious charges of child abuse, sodomy 1st degree and sexual abuse 1st degree were dismissed in exchange for a guilty plea on the lesser offense of enticement.

I will keep in touch with the case and let you know how the probation hearing comes out. If you have any questions, please let me know.

## More sexual abuse charges filed against Hoover man

Hoover police filed two additional charges Monday against a man for sexually abusing children in connection with an investigation into his activities with several youth programs.

Lt. Nick Derzis of the Hoover Police Department said one second-degree sexual abuse charge and one charge of enticing a child into a home for immoral purposes were filed against William Ray Hunnicutt Jr., 22, of 2410 Chapel Road, turned himself in to authorities at the Jefferson County Jail in Bessemer about 3:20 p.m. Monday and was released on \$500 bond for each charge, a jailer said.

Hunnicutt was arrested Dec. 18 and charged with two counts of child abuse, one count of sodomy and a charge of enticing a child for immoral purposes, authorities said. He was released Dec. 22 on \$125,000 bond, the authorities said.

Derzis said the charges filed against Hunnicutt on Monday involve one child and the previous charges also involved one child. "There's still a potential for additional victims," he said.

Hunnicutt, a karate instructor, participated in Big Brothers of Greater Birmingham Inc. and was involved in a youth program at Green Valley Baptist Church, authorities said.

Although Derzis said Hunnicutt did meet the victims through his activities with young people, he wouldn't specify to what group or organizations the victims may have belonged.

8-11-11-11

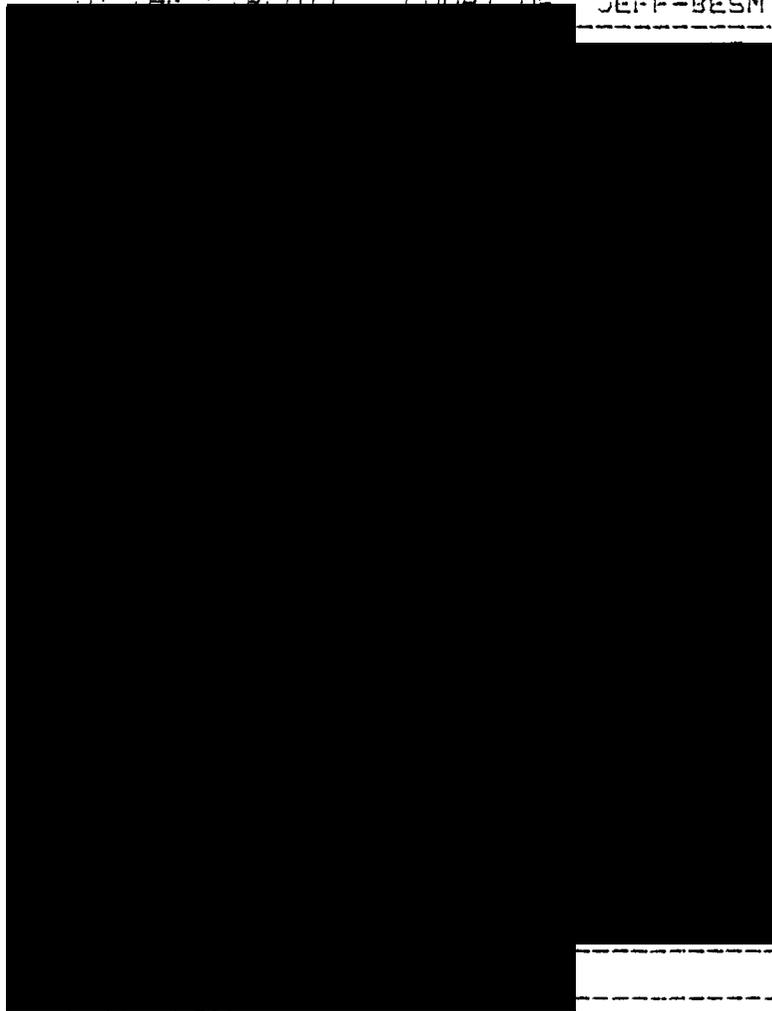
CASE ACTION SUMMARY  
CIRCUIT CRIMINAL

CASE: CC 88 001275 00

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF JEFF-BESSM COUNTY

JUDGE: DJR

HUNNICUTT WILLIAM RAY JR  
HOOVER ALABAMA



DATE WAR/CAP ISSUED: \_\_\_/\_\_\_/\_\_\_

DATE ARRESTED: 12/18/87

DATE HEARING: \_\_\_/\_\_\_/\_\_\_

DATE RELEASED: \_\_\_/\_\_\_/\_\_\_

DATE ARRAIGNED: 01/05/89

DATE TRIAL: \_\_\_\_\_

BOND/TYPE SURETIES: IND

BOND AMOUNT: \$025000 .00

DATE INDICTED: 12/02/88

DATE FILED: 12/02/88

WORTHLESS CHECK NO: \_\_\_\_\_

COURT REPORTER: \_\_\_\_\_

SID NO: 00122516

CASE NOTES

*U.A*

12/16/88 - NOLLE PROSEQUI RECOMMENDATION OF DISTRICT ATTORNEY

*W. J. [Signature]*

EXHIBIT 7

State of Alabama  
Unified Judicial System

CASE ACTION SUMMARY  
CONTINUATION

Case Number

Form C-7 Rev. 2/79

CC 98 1274  
ID YR Number

Style: Hannicutt Jr. William Ray

Page Number      of      Pages

DATE	ACTIONS, JUDGMENTS, CASE NOTES
12/16/88	<p>ARRAIGNED. Defendant's desire to plead guilty being made known to the Court, the defendant being called before the Court accompanied by his counsel and the Court having then and there executed "Court's Exhibit A" which said exhibit is hereby incorporated herein and made a part hereof as if set forth at length herein and the defendant now stating to the Court that he has read said exhibit or has had said exhibit read to him by his counsel and that his counsel has fully explained to him the contents of said exhibit and that he fully understands same and has no questions about same. The Court finds that the defendant is represented by competent counsel and that defendant has a full understanding of his plea of guilt, and is intelligently and voluntarily entering his plea of guilt with a full understanding of the nature of the charge and the consequence of his plea.</p> <p>Defendant withdraws his plea of not guilty heretofore entered in this cause, waives jury trial, and pleads guilty to <u>Entering Child's Personal Property</u> and is adjudged guilty. Defendant waives sentencing hearing. Habitual Offender hearing held. Court finds <u>0</u> prior felony convictions.</p> <p>The defendant being called before the Court for sentence and asked if he has anything to say as to why sentence should not be pronounced against him says <u>Nothing</u>.</p> <p>It is the judgment and sentence of the Court that the defendant be imprisoned in the penitentiary for a term of <u>2 years</u>.</p> <p>Victim's compensation of \$25.00 is imposed. Defendant makes application for probation. Probation office is ordered to make an investigation and report its finding to the Court.</p>
	<p style="text-align: right;"><u>Hypoll</u> CIRCUIT JUDGE</p>
3/7/89	<p>PASSED TO BE RESET <u>Hypoll</u> JUDGE</p> <p>I, Earl N. Carter, Jr., Clerk of the Circuit Court, Tenth Judicial Circuit of Alabama, Bessemer Division, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true, correct and full copy of the instrument herewith set out as appears of record in said Court.</p> <p>Witness my hand and the seal of said Court, this <u>10th</u> day of <u>March</u>, 19 <u>89</u></p> <p><u>Earl N. Carter, Jr.</u> Clerk</p> <p><i>25 Probation Packet</i></p>

April 7, 1989

READY FOR FILE  
APR 10 1989

Mr. James C. Tinker  
Scout Executive  
Birmingham Area Council, No. 2

PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL

SUBJECT: William Ray Hunnicutt, Jr.

Dear Jim:

Much time has passed since you first sent us a newspaper article related to the arrest of the above named individual. At that time, it was indicated that he was charged with sexual child abuse.

We really would like to have the outcome of the legal action. I would hope that the legal action has been completed and an outcome reached. If you could send us a copy of a newspaper clipping or court record, this would be most helpful in completing our file.

Thanks for your help.

Sincerely,

Paul Ernst, Director  
Registration Service

ag

cc: Southeast Region

CONF020588

January 18, 1989

Mr. James C. Tinker  
Scout Executive  
Birmingham Area Council, No. 2

PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL

SUBJECT: WILLIAM RAY HUNNICUTT, JR.

Dear Jim:

I really hate to bother you again, but I would like the outcome of the legal action if this is now completed for the above named individual.

A newspaper clipping or court record would then complete our file and enable us to refuse registration anywhere he might attempt it. Thanks so much for your help in completing this file.

Sincerely,

Paul Ernst, Director  
Registration Service

eko

cc: Southeast Region

READY TO FILE  
JAN 17 1989  
ERIN O'RILEY

CONF020589

October 17, 1988

Mr. James C. Tinker  
Scout Executive  
Birmingham Area Council, No. 2

PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL

SUBJECT: WILLIAM RAY HONKICUTT, JR.

Dear Jim:

This is just a follow up, concerning the above named individual. We would like the outcome of the legal action, if this has now taken place. Thanks for your help in completing this file.

Sincerely,

Paul Ernst, Director  
Registration Service

pam

cc: Southeast Region

READY TO FILE  
OCT 16 1988  
LAW OFFICE

CONF020590

July 19, 1983

Mr. James C. Tinker  
Scout Executive  
Birmingham Area Council, No. 2

PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL

SUBJECT: WILLIAM RAY HUNNICUTT, JR

Dear Jim:

Previously we have received information from you concerning the above named individual. At that time it was indicated that charges had been pressed against Mr. Hunnicutt for sexual abuse of youth. We wondered if the final disposition of the charges have been made as this would strengthen our file. We would like to have a copy of the court record or newspaper clippings related to this.

If we may be of any other help to you please let us know.

Sincerely,

Paul Ernst, Director  
Registration Service

pam

cc: Southeast Region

READY TO FILE  
JUL 19 1983  
ERIN O'RILEY

CONF020591

April 15, 1988

Mr. James C. Tinker  
Scout Executive  
Birmingham Area Council, No. 2

PERSONAL & CONFIDENTIAL

SUBJECT: William Ray Hunnicutt, Jr.

Dear Jim:

We appreciate the newspaper clippings which you sent us in January concerning the above-named individual. This indicated that sexual abuse charges had been filed against Mr. Hunnicutt.

I am enclosing another Confidential Record Sheet which I would like to have completed so we can identify Mr. Hunnicutt should he attempt to register with the Boy Scouts of America. Please complete this with as much information as is available so we may identify him anywhere he might move in the country.

We would also like to have the outcome of the legal action as this takes place. Any conviction and sentencing will be most helpful in substantiating our refusal of registration attempts.

Thank you for your help in building a complete file.

Sincerely,

Paul Ernst, Director  
Registration Service

eak

Encl.

cc: Southeast Region

READY TO FILE  
APR 14 1988  
ERIN O'RILEY

CONF020592

January 29, 1988

Mr. James C. Tinker  
Scout Executive  
Birmingham Area Council, No. 2

PERSONAL & CONFIDENTIAL

Dear Jim:

Thank you for your letter of January 23 with your concerns about some individuals.

I feel we should place William Ray Hunnicutt, Jr. on our confidential file. His involvement with youth in both the church and the Big Brothers makes him a prime candidate for attempting registration with the Boy Scouts of America.

I am enclosing a Confidential Record Sheet which I would like to have completed so we can identify Mr. Hunnicutt should he attempt to come affiliated with the Boy Scouts. We would also like the outcome of the legal action, once this is completed. I think this would give us all the information we need for refusal.

We also appreciate the material you sent us related to Dale L. Cook. I believe the letter you sent is fine and can be released to Mr. Cook indicating that he can no longer be registered with the Boy Scouts of America.

We would like more material related to this item. If any legal action takes place, we need this information to strengthen our files. Newspaper clippings, court records, and final disposition will be helpful. We would also like a paper with Mr. Cook's signature, if available.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me. We want to help you to protect the youth of America.

Sincerely,

Paul Ernst, Director  
Registration Service

mdw

Enclosure

cc: Southeast Region

READY TO FILE  
JAN 29 1988  
ERIN O'RILEY

*Added to CF file  
No reg located  
2-1-88  
cmw*

57  
23  
64

CONF020593

# BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA

## Birmingham Area Council

3600 8th Avenue South, P.O. Box 30010, Birmingham, Alabama 35222



James C. Tinker  
Scout Executive

January 23, 1988

Mr. Paul I. Ernst, Director  
Registration, Subscription and  
Statistical Service  
National Council  
Boy Scouts of America  
Post Office Box 152079  
Irving, Texas 75015-2079

Dear Paul:

The President of the Birmingham Area Council has appointed a "Standards of Leadership Committee" to serve as advisors and consultants to the Council Executive related to qualifications of volunteers to serve in Scouting. Based upon the recommendation of this committee, I am enclosing a couple of newspaper articles related to an alleged incident of child abuse involving a volunteer with Big Brothers/Big Sisters. Although he is not registered as a volunteer with the council, I did not know if we should place him on a confidential list to help prevent future involvement. His mailing address is [REDACTED] Hoover, Alabama 35216. Therefore, the decision is up to you as to whether you include him on your confidential list. *HOOVER*

Recently, we were made aware of the fact that Assistant Scoutmaster, Dale L. Cook, of Troop 29 was under investigation by the Department of Human Resources for alleged child abuse. Upon hearing these rumors, I immediately contacted the head of the institution and Troop Committee Chairman, and they informed me that Mr. Cook had resigned from his Scouting position last September. They reported that Mr. Cook had attempted suicide and had been recently released from a medical facility. They strongly recommended that the suggested form letter not be given to Mr. Cook at this time, as it might result into a serious tragedy. I was assured by the minister and the chairman of the troop committee that they would prevent his future involvement with the troop. After reviewing the details of this situation with our council Standards of Leadership Committee, they have recommended that, with your approval, I mail the enclosed letter to Mr. Cook. I will wait to receive your evaluation of this recommended procedure.



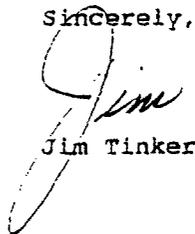
Serving Jefferson and Shelby Counties

CONF020594

Mr. Paul I. Ernst  
Page 2  
January 23, 1988

I would also like to report that I have personally delivered to Mr. Allen Francis a letter stating that he could no longer be involved in any capacity with the Boy Scouts of America.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Jim Tinker". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Jim Tinker

ns  
Enclosures

CONF020595

## More sexual abuse charges filed against Hoover man

Hoover police filed two additional charges Monday against a man for sexually abusing children in connection with an investigation into his activities with several youth programs.

Lt. Nick Derzis of the Hoover Police Department said one second-degree sexual abuse charge and one charge of enticing a child into a home for immoral purposes were filed against William Ray Hunnicutt Jr., 23.

Hunnicutt, of 2410 Chapel Road, turned himself in to authorities at the Jefferson County Jail in Bessemer about 3:30 p.m. Monday and was released on \$500 bond for each charge, a jailer said.

Hunnicutt was arrested Dec. 18 and charged with two counts of child abuse, one count of sodomy and a charge of enticing a child for immoral purposes, authorities said. He was released Dec. 22 on \$125,000 bond, the authorities said.

Derzis said the charges filed against Hunnicutt on Monday involve one child and the previous charges also involved one child. "There's still a potential for additional victims," he said.

Hunnicutt, a karate instructor, participated in Big Brothers of Greater Birmingham Inc. and was involved in a youth program at Green Valley Baptist Church, authorities said.

Although Derzis said Hunnicutt did meet the victims through his activities with young people, he wouldn't specify to what group or organizations the victims may have belonged.

# Sex abuse charged to youth leader in Hoover

By Kent Faulk  
News staff writer

A Hoover man who was involved in a youth program at his church and served as a volunteer with Big Brothers has been charged with sexually abusing at least two youths.

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Hunnicutt was booked into the Jefferson County Jail on two counts of child abuse, one count of sodomy and a charge of enticing a child for immoral purposes, according to a jailer.

He was released on \$125,000 bond Tuesday afternoon after a bail hearing before Bessemer Circuit Court Judge Dan Reynolds, authorities said. His bond had earlier been reduced from \$325,000 by Bessemer District Court Judge J.W. Patton, officials in the Bessemer District Attorney's office said.

Roger Appell, Hunnicutt's attorney, said he couldn't comment and had advised Hunnicutt not to talk with reporters. "We haven't had an opportunity to investigate it (the charges)," he said.

Laura Hoyt, juvenile officer with the Hoover Police Department, said the investigation is continuing and declined to comment about the present cases. She referred inquiries to Lt. Nick Derzis, who couldn't be reached by phone for comment Tuesday.

Woody Rodgers, deputy Jefferson County district attorney for the Bessemer Cutoff, said Tuesday that there are now at least two victims — both in their early teens — involved in the cases. "There are potentially a number of victims," he said.

Hunnicutt, a karate instructor, participated in Big Brothers of Greater Birmingham Inc. and was involved in a youth program at Green Valley Baptist Church in Hoover, Rodgers said.

He said he didn't know if any of the victims were involved in any of those activities.

But officials at the church were notified of a potential problem when Hunnicutt was arrested, Rodgers said. "They'd been suspicious and said they'd been limiting his contact with young people," he said.

Attempts to contact church officials by phone Tuesday were unsuccessful.

Rodgers said he didn't know if officials with the Big Brothers program had been notified, but "if they haven't they will (be)."

Mike Falligant, director of the Big Brothers program, said Tuesday night that Hunnicutt was terminated from the program in September when leaders became aware of a potential problem and the investigation by the Hoover Police Department.

"In fact, we were instrumental" in helping police begin their investigation, Falligant said.

He said Hunnicutt became a "big brother" last spring, and until he was terminated from the program he had only dealt with one child. Falligant said he doesn't know if that child is connected with any of the current or potential cases against Hunnicutt.

"We've been in business 15 years and this has never happened," Falligant said.

He said he believes the Big Brothers program has one of the most comprehensive screening processes of any social service organizations.

The process:

- An orientation session is held for those interested in the program.

- The applicant then provides information which includes three personal references plus an employer reference, all of which are checked.

- A check is made to see if the person has a criminal history.

- Program officials then have a personal interview with the candidate, which lasts an average of an hour and a half.

- A visit is then made to the person's home.

- The applicant is then given program training.

- Once the volunteer is paired with a child, monthly checks are made with all participants during the first year.

- After the first year the checks are made bi-monthly.

"I feel like we do all we can conceivably do" to screen applicants for the program, Falligant said. "Obviously we're going to look to see if there's something further we can do."