



# Department of Justice

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District of North Dakota

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## *Rolla Man Sentenced for Abusive Sexual Contact*

**BISMARCK** - United States Attorney Drew H. Wrigley announced that on December 11, 2008, **Ervin L. St. Claire, Jr.**, 28, of Rolla, North Dakota, was sentenced before United States District Court Chief Judge Daniel L. Hovland on a charge of abusive sexual contact.

At the sentencing hearing, Judge Hovland found that **St. Claire** had engaged in a pattern of activity involving prohibited sexual conduct based upon the instant offense and allegations of child sexual abuse in Bismarck, North Dakota, in the summer of 2005 and in Minot, North Dakota, in the summer of 2006. **St. Claire** faces charges of gross sexual imposition in Burleigh County, but has not been charged in Ward County.

Judge Hovland sentenced **St. Claire** to serve eight years in federal prison, to be followed by 25 years of supervised release, and to register as a sex offender. Based upon this conviction, **St. Claire** will be required to register as a sex offender for the rest of his life. **St. Claire** was ordered to pay a \$100 special assessment to the Crime Victim's Fund. This sentence will run consecutively to an eight-year federal sentence **St. Claire** is presently serving for arson and assaulting a federal officer.

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**St. Claire** pleaded guilty on July 14, 2008, to engaging in sexual contact with a child under the age of 12. The incident occurred on December 17, 2006, on the Turtle Mountain Indian Reservation. **St. Claire** was a guest in the eight-year-old victim's home. There were other adults present in the home, but **St. Claire** was able to isolate the young girl and engaged in the sexual contact. He was interrupted by the victim's uncle and the police were called.

The case was investigated by the Bureau of Indian Affairs - Turtle Mountain Agency and Federal Bureau of Investigation.

Assistant United States Attorney David Hagler prosecuted the case.

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