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Youth worker accused of molestation: 16 felony counts: Police say church's ex-staffer spent numerous nights: alone with 12-year-old boy.

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A 28-year-old church youth group worker who spent nights alone with a 12-year-old boy persuaded the youngster to have oral sex by showing him pornographic pictures and reading what he said was Scripture stored in his computer, police said Tuesday.

Adam Lee Gilliam of Sugar Hill was arrested Monday night and charged with 16 felony counts of child molestation and aggravated child molestation, police said. The arrest is the second Gwinnett case in two weeks where police claim a church youth group leader **molested**▶ a child.

Gilliam met the boy at Calvary Chapel North in Cumming, said Gwinnett police Sgt. Jeff Sligar.

Detectives do not believe any of the sexual assaults occurred in the church or on church-sponsored events. No other children who know Gilliam have come forward alleging sexual abuse, Sligar said.

Drew Grubbs, executive **▶pastor▶** at the 250-member church, said Gilliam was terminated in October from his part-time job at the church as communications director. Police said Gilliam also worked with youth groups at the church.

Gilliam allegedly took the boy along with him when Gilliam played in a softball league, according to court records. The boy obtained permission from his parents to go with Gilliam, Sligar said.

After the games, according to police, Gilliam brought the boy home with him. The child told police that during the sleepovers Gilliam crawled into bed with him and **▶molested** him, Sligar said. The molestation happened approximately 10 times, the boy told police. He spent the night with Gilliam on numerous occasions from September until December, police said.

The boy told police that "Gilliam also read Scripture off of the computer that said it was all right for them to be doing these acts," a search warrant affidavit reads.

Officials said they did not know what biblical passages Gilliam could have been quoting.

Detectives searched Gilliam's home on Sugar Crossing Drive Monday night and confiscated his computer. They planned to search through the hard drive for pornographic pictures and text files.

Grubbs said prospective employees at the church will have to undergo a background check before being hired.

In the other case, Mount Hermas Church of God youth group activities director Marcus Bellew and his wife Janice Bellew, both 21, allegedly seduced a 14-year-old girl from their church and had group sex with her, police said.

Marcus Bellew's friend, Matthew Bennett, 22, is accused of joining the group sex with the girl during an overnight stay at a hotel in Suwanee.



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