

Dear Members:

Last year, I was the investigating officer on several sexual abuse cases. These involved children from the ages of 7 to 13 in the small community I serve. The children had to be interviewed to determine the extent of what had happened to them. Needless to say these children were very scared and apprehensive about being interviewed.



When the first interview started it became difficult for the child to talk. I then remembered that Keyser (WV) Moose Lodge No. 662 had supplied us with Tommy Moose to give out to children. I quickly obtained a Tommy Moose and gave it to the child. The child's expression on seeing Tommy was one of joy. The child became more relaxed and was able to tell what had happened.

When I interviewed the other children, they too were given a Tommy Moose. The difference in each child's fear of the interview before and after Tommy Moose was amazing. The children were able to open up and be interviewed about the crimes that were committed on them.

In the end the person responsible for the crimes pleaded guilty, and received a 25-year sentence. I feel that because of Tommy Moose, I was able to obtain enough evidence that the accused had only one choice--to plead guilty.

Tommy Moose is now standard equipment with me.

Sincerely grateful,

Chief Chris Paitsel

Piedmont City (WV) Police Department