

# License suspended for counselor charged with sex abuse

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Officials said the license of an Enterprise counselor who was charged with sexually abusing one of his clients has been suspended while an investigation continues, and local human resource offices are no longer allowed to refer patients to the man's company.

According to the state Department of Human Resources, Independent

Counseling and Assessment Services in Enterprise no longer receives DHR clients since the sexual abuse arrest of 51-year-old Virgil Allen Freet of Ozark.

Freet had been shareholder and president of ICAS, according to its Web site.

The Alabama Board of Examiners in



**Virgil Allen Freet**

Counseling suspended Freet's license on Wednesday based on a statute that calls for such if there is basis for "danger to the health, safety or welfare of the public," Dale County District Attorney Kirke Adams said.

Adams said the board initially said a suspension could only happen based on hard evidence.

"I then sent my evidence to the board, and the next thing I know, Freet is suspended," Adams said. "I applaud the board for taking this immediate action for the protection of our community."

Freet was charged with sexual abuse in the first and second degree after electronic surveillance was set up to monitor his conversation with one of his teenage clients.

Adams said other investigations have been ongoing in almost every county south of Montgomery in which Freet counseled patients.

Freet's attorney, Thomas Scott Smith of Dothan, could not be reached for comment on Friday.

A number to contact Freet was not listed in a local directory.



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