

## Ozark Man Charged in Sexual Abuse

By Sarah Gilbert

Investigators with the Enterprise Police Department and the Dale County Sheriff's Office are looking into additional cases involving a counselor who was arrested May 23.

Virgil Allen Freet, 51, of Ozark was charged with sexual abuse in the first and second degree in connection with an investigation that began several weeks ago after a teenage girl told police in Enterprise that there had been "inappropriate sexual contact" between her and Freet at his counseling office.

Independent Counseling and Assessment Services, Freet's counseling firm, is in Dale County but has an Enterprise address, said Dale County District Attorney Kirke Adams.

Adams said his office "has had many calls of concerned agencies who have had questions in the past and those leads are being investigated at this time."

Adams said much of Freet's business came from referrals, including the Department of Human

Resources. The clinic also offered counseling programs with school boards in Crenshaw County and the city of Enterprise.

Adams said after the girl reported the inappropriate contact, her father gave permission to wear electronic surveillance, both audio and video, to a counseling session with Freet.

Adams said a search warrant was then executed, and investigators took several computers from the clinic, as well as Freet's personal computer from his home.

Anyone with a complaint against Freet should call the Dale County District



**Virgil Allen Freet**

Attorney's office at 774-9500, the Dale County Sheriff's Office at 774-2335, or the Enterprise Police Department at (334) 347-2222.