



# Ottawa County Sheriff's Office

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July 28, 2005

**Letter to the Editor:**

We write this letter in response to the article published on Thursday, July 28, 2005, concerning the guilty verdict in the Ronald Pflug case. While it is not appropriate to question the jury's decision, we find it difficult to hold back when someone accuses an investigator with whom we have worked with for many years of lying in court. The article indicates that Attorney K. Ronald Bailey, along with friends and family of Mr. Pflug, have accused Children's Services Investigator Betsy Gordon of lying about Mr. Pflug's confession to her during the investigation of this case.

We have worked with Ms. Gordon for many years on child abuse cases, from physical and mental abuse to cases of severe sexual assault. Never once, in all the cases in all those years, has anyone ever accused Ms. Gordon of anything like this. Ms. Gordon's investigation and documentation of these cases has always been compassionate, professional and accurate. For anyone to say she would lie on the stand or fabricate a confession is simply implausible. Investigators from our offices, as well as others throughout Ottawa County have always respected her ability, the quality of her work and held her in the highest regard.

While one may or may not agree with the outcome of a criminal case, especially those involving children, residents of Ottawa County should know there is never reason to suspect confessions are fabricated simply to get a conviction in any case.

*Robert L. Bratton*

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Chief Deputy Randy R. Riedmaier

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