

- Special to the Daily Leader

Attorney General Steve Six announced Wednesday that Michael Leland Akins, Jr., 38, was charged Tuesday in McPherson County with 19 counts sex crimes and two counts battery for abusing three females and one male under the age of 14. The crimes occurred between December 2008 and December 2009.

Akins was arrested Tuesday evening and is being held in the McPherson County jail. Bond was set at \$250,000.

Akins was charged with one count rape (off-grid person felony, Jessica's Law, life without parole for 25 years), 12 counts aggravated indecent liberties with a child (ranging from off-grid to level 4 person felony), two counts aggravated indecent solicitation of a child (level 5 person felony, 31-136 months), one count indecent solicitation with a child (level 6 person felony, 17-46 months), two counts battery (Class B person misdemeanor, up to 6 months in jail), and one count lewd and lascivious behavior (level 9 person felony, 5-17 months).

First appearance was Wednesday in McPherson County District Court. The preliminary hearing was set for 3 p.m. Jan, 15. This will likely just be a status conference, according to the AG's office.

These are only allegations and Akins should be considered innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.