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EX-CITY COUNCILOR, WIFE ACCUSED OF CHILD NEGLECT

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Former Syracuse City Councilor **Frederick "Rick" Guy** and his wife were named Thursday in a child neglect petition filed by county officials in Onondaga County Family Court.

The petition seeks to have one of the couple's seven children removed from the family's home at 104 Winkworth Parkway for her safety.

The county charges that **Guy** has used excessive corporal punishment with his teenage daughter and disrupted his children's education by moving them from program to program. The county also charged that **Guy** filed Persons in Need of Supervision (PINS) cases against two of his children as part of his demand that they "must unconditionally obey him because he is the 'God's replacement on Earth' and 'the manifestation of God on earth.'"

According to the court filing, **Guy** and his wife, **Alycia**, were offered counseling services by the county to address the situation but refused the offer.

Contacted outside her home Thursday, **Alycia Guy** said she hasn't seen the court papers and doesn't want to comment on the allegations until she sees them.

According to court papers, the neglect case against the Guys was based on an investigation of the couple by the county Department of Social Services.

Senior Deputy County Attorney Joanna Gozzi Thursday declined comment on the case. First Chief Assistant District Attorney Rick Trunfio also declined comment on whether the county's allegations have been passed on to the prosecutor's office for review.

Lawyer Lisa Gilels, representing the Guys' 15-year-old daughter in a pending PINS case, said it was possible the PINS allegations against the teenager were aimed at undermining her credibility as the Guys came under investigation for neglect by the county.

"I think they should be monitored by the Department of Social Services to make sure that their parenting skills improve," Gilels said of the Guys.

Frederick Guy could not be reached for comment Thursday afternoon. He and his wife are slated to make their first appearance in the case Tuesday before Family Court Judge Bryan Hedges.

Guy served as a city councilor, beating Matt Driscoll for a district seat in 1989 and again four years later for a citywide seat. He worked as former Mayor Roy Bernardi's corporation counsel, resigning when Bernardi took a job in Washington in 2001 and Driscoll became mayor.

Guy was mentioned as a possible candidate for state Attorney General in 2002 and for U.S. Attorney for Central New York in 2001. He also is active in the anti-abortion movement and in the movement against government recognition of gay marriages.

He and his wife have seven children, ranging in age from 4 to 17.

The action by the County Attorney's Office was filed on behalf of all seven children, but seeks only to have the couple's 15-year-old daughter removed from the family's home "in order to prevent imminent risk" to her life or health. The paperwork

indicated a court order of protection probably would not be worthwhile since the Guys refused to cooperate with DSS.

The court filing indicates the 15-year-old has been repeatedly subjected to corporal punishment at the hands of her father.

Lawyer William Sullivan is representing the Guys' 17-year-old son. Hedges on Thursday assigned lawyer Lucia Whisenand to represent the remaining children in the neglect case.

The case

Frederick and **Alycia Guy** are named in a child neglect petition filed in Onondaga County Family Court. A Family Court neglect case is not a criminal prosecution. It is civil proceeding that seeks to keep the family unified by providing counseling or other services to address the problems.

The allegations against Rick **Guy** include:

On or about Sept. 30, **Guy** repeatedly struck his daughter over the course of 10 to 15 minutes with a belt on her buttocks, leaving large red, blue and purple bruises.

On or about Dec. 6, **Guy** slapped his daughter across the face, dragged her upstairs and yanked her by the feet into her bedroom.

On or about Oct. 3, Sept. 27, June 11 and other occasions during the summer, **Guy** slapped his daughter across the face.

On or about Oct. 4 and other occasions during the past year, **Guy** belittled his daughter, "telling her she looked like a slut and acted like a whore and was disgusting," embarrassing the girl and causing emotional distress.

For the past three years, **Guy** has called his now 17-year-old son "a bum, a pot head and a druggie" causing emotional upset and failing to get appropriate help for the son's eating disorder.

About two years ago, **Guy** repeatedly punched that son in the chest and arms for several minutes because he was reading a book on sailing while watching his younger brother.

Guy often disciplines his 6-year-old daughter by slapping her.

Guy allows his younger sons to tease and taunt their sisters, laughing along with the boys instead of stopping them, causing the girls emotional distress.

Guy has punished his 15-year-old daughter by refusing to allow her to take communion at church services and dictating what she must confess to the priest during confession, causing her emotional distress and embarrassment.

Guy has, over the past few years, moved his children from home-schooling to parochial schooling to public schooling, disrupting their educational and emotional well-being. While the 15-year-old daughter reportedly is now being home-schooled, the petition claims she is not getting adequate instruction and is required to do house work and baby-sit.

The allegations against **Alycia Guy** include:

Alycia Guy punched her 15-year-old daughter in September, squeezed the child's arm and ordered the child out of the house for several days. When the daughter was allowed back home, she was not allowed to speak with and have any contact with the other children.

The petition accuses both parents of:

Threatening to file PINS petitions and have three of their children placed in detention facilities in order to force compliance with the demand for unconditional obedience.

Following through on that threat by initiating PINS proceedings against their 15-year-old daughter and 17-year-old son, allowing their daughter to be held at the Hillside non-secure detention facility for several weeks and then denying her contact with her assigned law guardian. The petition charges **Guy** then dictated a letter for his daughter to write in which she accepted responsibility for her father beating her and claiming she only had bruises because she bruises easily.

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