

Chiropractor to be jailed for sexual assault

FEBRUARY 24, 1992 12:00 AM • [BY](#)

SHEBOYGAN (AP) - A chiropractor convicted of sexually assaulting a female patient twice during examinations in 1990 has been sentenced to six months in jail.

Sheboygan County Circuit Judge Timothy Van Akkeren also ordered Dr. Ingolf K. Bartels, 47, to undergo a psychological evaluation.

Bartels, a chiropractor in Sheboygan since 1978, was found guilty by a jury in December of two counts of fourth-degree sexual assault. He had been accused of fondling a woman's breasts and ordering her to disrobe during treatment for back pain in May and June 1990.

"On two occasions this individual placed her trust in a health care professional, literally in his hands, opening her up to this kind of assault, when she thought she was safe in the hands of a professional," Van Akkeren said. "People who have accepted the public trust - when they violate that trust - they will pay the price."

Van Akkeren delayed the sentence until March 10 to allow defense attorney Alex Flynn to consider grounds for an appeal and released Bartels on a \$2,500 recognizance bond.

"We absolutely intend to file an appeal," Flynn said Sunday.

Five women testified at Friday's hearing that Bartels had fondled their breasts during treatments. Assistant District Attorney David Bayer said the assaults established a long pattern of abuse.

More than two dozen character witnesses spoke on Bartels' behalf.

"That testimony rebuts what the assistant district attorney would have you believe, that this man was some kind of spider in the community waiting for the web to wiggle and go down and do his dastardly deed," Flynn said.

James Polewski, legal counsel for the State of Wisconsin's Chiropractic Examining Board in Madison, said Friday that he did not know if the board knew of Bartels' conviction.