

MEDIA RELEASE

For Immediate Release

January 11, 2010

Undercover Operation Nets Arrest of Rainsville Man for Enticing Child

Sheriff Jimmy Harris states as follows:

On Friday January 8, School Resource Officer Deputy Scott Tarrant received information from the mother of a 14-year-old female regarding sexually explicit text messages the mother had found on her daughter's cell phone. The messages appeared to have come from a 30-year-old male identified as David Ray McSpadden, of Rainsville, who is reportedly a friend of the daughter's friend. McSpadden had commented through the messages that he wanted to meet with the girl. Deputy Tarrant took the cell phone and continued texting with McSpadden as if he were the 14-year-old girl.

Through the text messages, arrangements were made for McSpadden to come to the girl's residence after he got off work. The girl's parents allowed officers to use their residence for a sting operation. Two deputies were inside the residence and two other undercover vehicles were in the neighborhood. When McSpadden arrived at the residence, he was arrested without incident by Deputy Jon Hill and Lt. Josh York.

Upon confiscating McSpadden's phone, officers found several explicit text messages describing sexual acts. There were also nude photographs that McSpadden had taken of himself and sent to the girl.

McSpadden was charged with Enticing a Child for Immoral Purposes and Dissemination of Material Harmful to Minors. He remains in jail at this time awaiting bond. Investigation continues and additional charges are possible.

Sheriff Harris said, "We continue to encourage parents to monitor their children's cell phone and computer use. You just never know when someone might be inappropriately contacting them. There is no reason why we shouldn't stay informed about who our kids are talking to and what's going on in their lives."



