



**BOONE COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT
CYBER CRIMES TASK FORCE**

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Media Release

Primary Agencies:

Boone County Sheriff's Dept.
Boone County Prosecuting
Attorney's Office
University of Missouri Police
Department
Federal Bureau of Investigation

Associate Agencies:

Ashland Police Department
Auxvasse Police Department
Boonville Police Department
Centralia Police Department
Columbia Police Dept.
Fayette Police Department
Fulton Police Department
Hallsville Police Department
Holt's Summit Police Dept.
Jefferson City Police
Department
Mexico Department of Public
Safety
Moberly Police Department
New Franklin Police Department
Audrain County Sheriff's Office
Cooper County Sheriff's
Department
Callaway County Sheriff's
Department
Howard County Sheriff's
Department
Randolph County Sheriff's
Department

Incident: Man Arrested for Possession of Child Pornography

Location: 5400 Block of Route AA, in Russellville, Missouri

Case Number: 18-003634

Details:

On Tuesday, November 20, 2018, a Cole County man was arrested for 1 count Possession of Child Pornography, Class D felony and 1 count Possession of Child Pornography, Class B felony.

The investigation leading to the arrest began after the Boone County Sheriff's Department Cyber Crimes Task Force received a report from NCMEC (National Center for Missing and Exploited Children) regarding apparent child pornography photographs being uploaded to a social media account.

The Task Force established a location for the account user at a Russellville residence and served a court ordered search warrant on September 26, 2018, at which time several items of electronic evidence were seized. The suspect was not present at the time of search warrant service and attempts to locate him were unsuccessful.

Forensic analysis of the seized electronic evidence revealed a large number of photographs depicting apparent children between the ages of 5 and 12 engaging in the lascivious display of genitals as well as sex acts with adult men.

On November 20, 2018, the suspect was located and arrested on unrelated charges in Cole County, during which time he was also arrested and booked for the child pornography possession counts resulting from the described investigation.

The suspect is identified as 29-year-old Sheldon C. Higginbotham who resides at Lot 3 of 5414 Route AA, in Russellville, Missouri. Mr. Higginbotham is currently being held without bond.

All suspects are considered innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.

The Boone County Sheriff's Department Cyber Crimes Task Force is comprised of investigators from the Boone County Sheriff's Department, the University of Missouri Police Department, the Federal Bureau of Investigations, and the Boone County Prosecuting Attorney's office.

This project is supported by funds made available through the State of Missouri Cyber Crimes Grant administered by the Missouri Department of Public Safety.

The Boone County Sheriff's Department Cyber Crimes Task Force is part of the Missouri Internet Crimes against Children Task Force.

Release date & time: November 21, 2018 @ 14:30 hours
Release Authorized by: Detective Cody Bounds

