



OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY

KEVIN R. STEELE

DISTRICT ATTORNEY

EDWARD F. McCANN, JR.

FIRST ASSISTANT DISTRICT ATTORNEY

COUNTY OF MONTGOMERY

COURTHOUSE

P.O. BOX 311

NORRISTOWN, PENNSYLVANIA

19404-0311

SAMUEL J. GALLEN

CHIEF COUNTY DETECTIVE

JESSE S. KING

CHIEF OF STAFF

DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE

DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S FAX

COUNTY DETECTIVE BUREAU

(610) 278-3090

(610) 278-3095

(610) 278-3368

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Kate Delano 610-278-3148

HORSHAM MAN ARRESTED FOR SEXUAL ASSAULT, OTHER CHARGES AFTER LURING GIRLS ON FACEBOOK, THEN MEETING UNDERAGE GIRL



RICHARD BLONG

NORRISTOWN, Pa. (Oct. 11, 2018) —Montgomery County District Attorney Kevin R. Steele, Horsham Township Police Chief William J. Daly and the Internet Crimes Against Children (ICAC) Task Force announce the arrest of Richard Blong, 27, of Horsham, on charges of Statutory Sexual Assault, Involuntary Deviate Sexual Intercourse, Unlawful Contact with a Minor, Sexual Abuse of Children and other charges after having sex with a 15-year-old girl he lured on Facebook.

On Sept. 27, 2018, ICAC received a cybertip from Facebook via the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children. The tip identified possible child pornography/exploitation. The defendant reportedly enticed three teenage girls, who were between the ages of 14 and 17, to send pornographic images to him.

The Montgomery County Detective Bureau and Horsham Police opened an investigation, which revealed that the defendant had Facebook conversations

that were sexually explicit and exchanged sexually explicit photos with the three minor females, whose ages were all listed on their Facebook profiles. In August, the defendant met one of the girls in person at his home in Horsham and had sexual intercourse with her. The other two girls, who did not live in Pennsylvania, never met with the defendant.

“Predators know the seemingly private nature of cell phone use by children and teens and their various social media accounts. And predators seek to use those friendly platforms to take advantage of children,” said Steele. “Parents need to be vigilant in monitoring their children’s activity, keep an eye out for anything suspicious, and reiterate to their children that they should not correspond with unknown adults on these social media platforms.”

Blong was arraigned before Magisterial District Judge Patricia Zaffarano, who set bail at \$100,000 cash. The defendant failed to post bail and was remanded to the Montgomery County Correctional Facility. A preliminary hearing is scheduled for 10:45 a.m., Oct. 17, 2018, before Magisterial District Judge Harry J. Nesbitt III.

The case will be prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Nicholas Beeson.

Approved for release:

Kevin R. Steele

CRIMINAL CHARGES, AND ANY DISCUSSION THEREOF, ARE MERELY ALLEGATIONS AND ALL DEFENDANTS ARE PRESUMED INNOCENT UNTIL AND UNLESS PROVEN GUILTY.