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April 17, 2019

Fauquier boys' nude photos result in New York arrest

Two Fauquier County boys recently sent nude photos of themselves to a New York man posing as a 15-year-old California girl, according to law enforcement

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authorities.

The FBI on Tuesday arrested Steven Gasiorek, 33, of Sloan, N.Y., near Buffalo.

Mr. Gasiorek faces a possession of child pornography charge for photos of one of the local boys, Fauquier sheriff's Sgt. James Hartman said Wednesday.

A 14-year-old boy's guardian noticed strange activity on an INSTAGRAM private message and reported it to the sheriff's office Feb. 28, Sgt. Hartman said.

"The activity appeared to be from a 15-year-old female in California containing messages requesting nude photos of the victim in exchange for nude photos back," the sergeant added.

Sheriff's Detective Dawn Rosenberry, who specializes in online sex crime investigations, took over the case and "immediately obtained search



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This is a stark reminder to parents to monitor the social media activity of children. Any child who has access to a



warrants for records and information,” Sgt. Hartman said. “The subscriber information obtained as a result led to an IP address that returned to an address outside of Buffalo, New York.”

cell phone, tablet or computer is vulnerable to predators on the internet.

— Sheriff Bob Mosier

The investigation led “to another 12-year-old male victim in Fauquier County,” the sergeant added. “Detective Rosenberry contacted the Cheektowaga Police Department and teamed up with a local detective assigned to the FBI Child Exploitation Taskforce. Using the information obtained by Detective Rosenberry, authorities in New York conducted an investigation and discovered the 15-year-old female in California was actually an adult male from New York state, pretending to be a young female.”

The FBI continues to investigate.

“This is a stark reminder to parents to monitor the social media activity of children,” Sheriff Bob Mosier said. “Any child who has access to a cell phone, tablet or computer is vulnerable to predators on the internet.

“Due to the good work of Detective Dawn Rosenberry, whose diligence broke this case open and identified other victims, another child predator who has been preying on children, for possibly many years, is in jail.”

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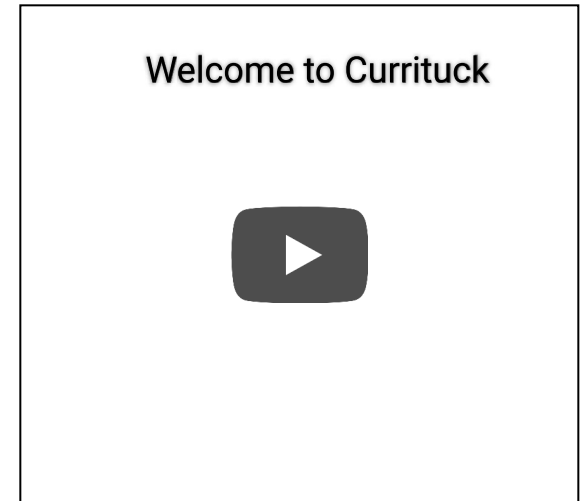
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