

https://www.fauquier.com/news/new-york-man-arrested-on-child-pornography-charges-involving-fauquier/article_db9ac786-6149-11e9-852c-e75c802401c3.html

New York man arrested on child pornography charges involving Fauquier victims

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Steven Gasiorek

Steven Gasiorek of Sloan, New York, was arrested Tuesday, April 16 on child pornography charges, according to a Fauquier County Sheriff's Office press release. Two of his alleged victims live in Fauquier County.

The FBI in Buffalo, New York, has charged Gasiorek with possession of child pornography related to one of the victims, said Sgt. James Hartman of the FCSO.

Gasiorek, 33, is a substitute school teacher and a coach in a New York school district. Authorities in New York are continuing to investigate Gasiorek's activities in that jurisdiction, said Hartman.

The origins of the arrest go back several months. On Feb. 28, a Fauquier County sheriff's deputy took a report of suspicious online activity involving a minor, said Hartman. The incident was reported by the guardian of a 14-year-old boy.

Hartman reported that the guardian had noticed strange activity on an Instagram private message. The activity appeared to be from a 15-year-old girl in California containing messages requesting nude photos of the victim in exchange for nude photos back. Hartman said that after looking at the activity further, the guardian became suspicious and reported the incident to the Fauquier County Sheriff's Office.

While taking the report at the victim's residence, the deputy contacted Detective Dawn Rosenberry by phone and shared details of the guardian's concerns, Hartman said. The investigation was turned over to Rosenberry, who immediately obtained search warrants for records and information. The subscriber information obtained as a result led to an IP address that returned to an address outside of Buffalo, New York, said Hartman.

Further information obtained through search warrants revealed numerous other victims, to include an additional 12-year-old victim in Fauquier County, according to Hartman.

Rosenberry contacted the Cheektowaga Police Department and teamed up with a local detective assigned to the FBI Child Exploitation Taskforce, Hartman reported. Using the information obtained by Rosenberry, authorities in New York conducted an investigation and discovered that the 15-year-old girl in California was actually an adult man from New York pretending to be a teenage girl.

Sheriff Bob Mosier stated, "This is a stark reminder to parents to monitor the social media activity of children. Any child who has access to a cellphone, tablet or computer is vulnerable to predators on the internet."

Mosier added, "due to the good work of Det. 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." He said that the arrest and future charges "are the result of the professional cooperation of the Fauquier County Sheriff's Office with our law enforcement partners."

The Fauquier County Sheriff's Office is a member of the Northern Virginia-Washington D.C. Internet Crimes Against Children Taskforce.