

JOINT MEDIA RELEASE



S.A.F.E.

SEXUAL ASSAULT FELONY ENFORCEMENT

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Michael Jeandron
Public Information Officer
Contact: 951.955.9215

SAFE TASK FORCE ARRESTS SOCIAL NETWORKING SEX PREDATOR

Riverside, CA – Thursday, August 26, 2010, investigators from the Riverside County Sexual Assault Felony Enforcement (SAFE) Task Force arrested James Moorehouse, 36, of Pomona. He was arrested on felony charges related to communicating with a minor for the purpose of committing a sexual offense, facilitating a minor for the purpose of committing a lewd or lascivious act, attempted kidnapping, and attempted child molestation.

On August 25, 2010, the parents of a 14-year-old girl became aware of an inappropriate online relationship between their child and an unknown adult. The teen met the adult on a popular social networking website and began chatting with him online and via text messages. The adult male, who investigators later identified as Moorhouse, offered to buy the minor clothing, alcoholic beverages, and tobacco products in exchange for modeling services and sexual favors.

The parents immediately reported their discovery to the Riverside County Sheriff's Department who requested assistance from the SAFE Task Force's Sexual Predator Internet Decoy Enforcement for Riverside (SPIDER) unit. SPIDER investigators assumed the minor's online identity and continued communicating with Moorehouse. The decoy arranged to meet Moorehouse at a Mira Loma shopping center in order to go to another location for sexual favors. When Moorehouse arrived to meet the child, he was arrested by the SAFE Task Force.

Members of Riverside County's SAFE Task Force routinely partner with law enforcement agencies throughout Riverside County in an effort to keep the community safe from sex predators. County residents are invited to communicate information or concerns related to this or other, similar incidents directly to the SAFE Task Force at 1-866-SAFE-595. For information and helpful tips regarding Internet safety for children and teens, please visit the SAFE Task Force website: www.rivcosafe.org

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