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For immediate release:
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Wednesday, Sept. 21, 2005

Sex offender arrested for luring

Port Orchard, Wash. -- A Pierce County man, wanted by Kitsap County Sheriff's detectives for his role in a luring situation involving two 10 year-old girls, was arrested this afternoon by Pierce County Sheriff's deputies and turned over into the custody of Kitsap County Sheriff's detectives.

The suspect, identified as Nathan Jared Percy, age 23, of Key Peninsula North (outside the city limits of Gig Harbor), is a Level 1 registered sex offender having been convicted of rape of a child, 1st degree, in 1998.

A warrant had been issued for Percy's arrest pursuant to this investigation.

The incident occurred at approximately 8:15 a.m. this morning in the 7900 block of Bethel-Burley Road SE, in South Kitsap. The two girls, students at a South Kitsap School District elementary school, observed a red-colored "sports car" type vehicle turn onto their residential street, drive to the end and return.

The driver of the vehicle stopped the car near the bus stop and contacted the two girls. Due to the suspect's interactions with the victims Sheriff's detectives developed enough probable cause to obtain a warrant for his arrest for luring.

The suspect left the bus stop northbound on Bethel Burley Road. Within a matter of a minute or so the man returned and stopped his car across the roadway from the two girls. The driver spent several moments watching the girls and then departed again, last seen heading southbound on Bethel Burley Road. After the suspect's reappearance the two girls ran home and contacted a parent.

The suspect's vehicle was later identified as a red-colored 1993 Honda Civic two-door coupe.

As detectives were working this investigation both the South Kitsap and Peninsula School Districts were advised of the situation and their bus route drivers asked to be on the lookout for the suspect vehicle.

With a report of a sighting of the Honda Civic heading towards Key Peninsula this afternoon, Pierce County deputies were able to intercept Percy and take him into custody at approximately 3:15 p.m.

Percy was turned over into the custody of Kitsap County Sheriff's detectives and transported and booked into the Kitsap County Jail on a charge of luring. Bail was set initially at \$100,000.

In addition to the child rape conviction, Percy also has felony convictions for residential burglary and being a felon in possession of a firearm. Before today, his most recent arrest occurred in Pierce County on Aug. 5, 2005, for assault, 4th degree; malicious mischief, 3rd degree, and for interfering with the reporting of domestic violence.

Percy will make an initial appearance in Kitsap County Superior Court tomorrow (Thurs., Sept. 22) at 3:00 p.m.

In many instances crimes such as luring are not reported to authorities in a timely manner, if at all. Persons with information about this particular situation, or similar crimes / incidents, are asked to contact Detective Steve Duckworth at (360) 337-5669.

Those wishing to remain anonymous may call Crime Stoppers of Puget Sound at 1-800-CRIME-13.

Note: A photograph of Percy and of a vehicle similar to the one he was operating are attached.



Nathan Jared Percy

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