



NEWS RELEASE
GREENE COUNTY PROSECUTING ATTORNEY
DAN PATTERSON

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1010 Boonville
Springfield, MO 65802

12/15/2014

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

ASH GROVE TEACHER CHARGED FOR SEX WITH STUDENT

SPRINGFIELD, Mo. – Greene County Prosecuting Attorney Dan Patterson announces that William Nathan Herrington, 34, of Republic, Missouri, has been charged today with the felony of statutory sodomy in the second degree and sexual contact with a student on school property. These allegations involve events which occurred in October of this year. Since these allegations were initially reported to the Ash Grove Police Department, officers have been working with the Prosecutor's Office to complete the investigation. Ash Grove Police submitted the final reports late last week and the charges were filed today. Mr. Herrington turned himself in and his bond was set at \$10,000.00 with several conditions if that bond is posted. The conditions of bond include GPS monitoring, no contact with the victim, no contact with children under the age of seventeen, and not to be in the city limits of Ash Grove.

Mr. Patterson cautions that the charges contained in the felony complaint are merely allegations and that the defendant is presumed innocent until and unless proven guilty in court.

Copies of the felony complaint and probable statement filed in this case are attached to this release. The Missouri Supreme Court ethics rules prohibit comments on the facts or investigation of this case beyond those contained in the felony complaint and probable cause statement that are part of the public record.

This case is being prosecuted by Assistant Prosecuting Attorney Emily Monroe. It is being investigated by the Ash Grove Police Department and Detective Brian Swearngin is the lead investigator assigned to the case.

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Ash Grove Police Department

101 N. Calhoun * Ash Grove, MO 65604
Phone: (417) 751-2333 * Fax (417) 751-3814

Probable Cause Statement Form

Date: 12-01-2014

Case#: 2014-00959

I, Jacob Marler, knowing that false statements on this form are punishable by law, state that the facts contained herein are true.

1. I have probable cause to believe that between October 5th and October 24th 2014, at different locations including 207 N. Calhoun Avenue and 100 N. Maple Lane, in Ash Grove, Greene County, Missouri, **William Nathan Herrington**, a white male, DOB: 11-24-1979, committed one or more criminal offense(s).

Statutory Sodomy 2nd Degree (RSMo 566.064)

Child Molestation 2nd Degree (RSMo 566.068)

Sexual Contact With a Student (RSMo 566.086)

2. The facts supporting this belief are as follows:

On October 25, 2014, Ash Grove Police Officer Brian Swearingin took a report from the Ash Grove School District, a public school located in Greene County, concerning William Nathan Herrington, a high school teacher, who was having sexual contact and relations with a juvenile student.

Dr. Kyle Collins, Superintendent of the Ash Grove School District, said he received information from a parent of a 16 year old female student identified as K.J. This parent had located a handwritten note, and several email messages that were of a sexual nature. The messages were received on K.J.'s Twitter account, and showed they were sent from a Twitter account of Nate Herrington and displaying a photo of Ash Grove teacher Nathan Herrington. The parent was familiar with Nate [Nathan] Herrington and that he was a teacher at the Ash Grove High School. Several of the messages indicated that sexual contact had occurred between Herrington and K.J.

On October 30, 2014 the Affiant observed an interview of K.J. conducted at the Child Advocacy Center. During the interview, K.J. told the interviewer that history teacher Nathan Herrington was taking advantage of her, and described it as "sexual abuse".

K.J. said Herrington began to follow her Twitter account on October 1, 2014, and began sending messages of a sexual nature. K.J. said Herrington wouldn't stop sending the messages. K.J. explained how Herrington made her feel guilty, and she would go along with it because she was terrified and scared of how he would react if she didn't.

Early during the month of October, Herrington began to touch the victim on the butt with his hand, when the victim would leave his classroom.

077-335602

Herrington would send the victim messages that said "closet time", soliciting K.J.'s assistance in the library storage closet. Once inside the closet, Herrington would begin to hug the victim, and place his hands on the victim's arms, waist, butt, and rub his arm against the victim's "boobs". K.J. said she had to meet Herrington in the high school library closet at least ten times.

K.J. reported that on the evening of October 9, 2014, at the Herrington residence, Herrington pushed her backwards onto the couch by her shoulders, laid on top of her, and began to kiss her very forcefully.

K.J. described to the interviewer how Herrington kissed her with a closed and open mouth on her forehead, face, lips, shoulders, neck, arms, collar bone, "boobs", and "crotch", both on top of and under her clothing. He removed the victim's shirt, kissed all down her stomach, took off her bra, fondled and kissed her "boobs". He proceeded to remove her pants, and kiss all over her "crotch and inner thighs", removed her underwear and licked her unclothed "crotch".

Herrington removed his shirt, pulled the victim on top of him and told the victim to kiss him. K.J. said Herrington said "kiss me now", not giving the victim a choice, and forcing the victim's head to his lips, collar bone, chest, and stomach. Herrington pulled down his pants and made the victim suck his penis.

K.J. said Herrington knew she was scared enough not to tell anyone, and said she "was putty in his hands".

Herrington sent messages to the victim inquiring if the victim's parent monitored the victim's phone, acknowledging he knew the victim was a minor, and that he [Herrington] could go to jail for these activities.

3. I believe that the defendant will not appear in court in response to a criminal summons because:

Within 24 hours of Herrington becoming aware of the allegation, Herrington was seen leaving his residence as a passenger in his father's truck. Herrington's father is a resident of the state of Texas. Herrington's father has been observed moving household items and furniture from the residence at 207 N. Calhoun, which has now been posted for rent. According to the property owner, the residence has been rented and will be vacated on December 2. Herrington has a current United States Passport.

The above information is true and accurate to the best of my information and belief.

Jacob Marler
Name


Signature

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF GREENE COUNTY, MISSOURI

STATE OF MISSOURI,)
Plaintiff,)
vs.) Case No.
)
)PA File No. 077335602
WILLIAM NATHAN HERRINGTON)
Defendant.)

PROSECUTING ATTORNEY'S BAIL/BOND RECOMMENDATION

The bail/bond recommendation of the Greene County Prosecutor, in this case, is as follows:

1. AMOUNT: \$10,000

- OPEN COURT ONLY BOND (by administrative order applies automatically to bonds \$25,000 and higher)
 State agrees to recognizance release by Court Order after the first court appearance upon the conditions of release in Exhibit A
 Hold without Bond

2. The State requests that the Court also impose the conditions of bond set out on the proposed Exhibit A to Arrest Warrant attached hereto and that such conditions be incorporated by reference upon the Warrant.

3. The State requests the Court set bond in the above amount and upon the conditions set out in Exhibit A to Arrest Warrant hereto for the following reasons: Defendant, while a teacher at the Ash Grove School District, had sexual contact with a 16 year old student at the high school during the month of October of 2014. He had deviate sexual intercourse with that student at his home on October 9, 2014. He exchanged messages with the student; messages from him to the student were discovered by the student's mother. The victim was interviewed at the Child Advocacy Center and disclosed what had happened to her. The State has some concerns that Defendant might be a flight risk or that he might commit new offenses while out on bond. Defendant is married and has some ties to this region, but within 24 hours of learning of the allegations, he was seen with his father, who is a Texas resident, and the defendant no longer lives in the home where he committed the offense on October 9, 2014. Given the allegations, Defendant is no longer employed by Ash Grove. Defendant has a current United States passport.

Respectfully submitted,



Electronically signed;
Emily Monroe
Assistant Prosecuting Attorney
Mo. Bar No. 63397
1010 Boonville
Springfield, MO 65804
(417) 868-4061
FAX (417) 868-4160

EXHIBIT A
TO ARREST WARRANT

State of Missouri v. William Nathan Herrington
Case No:

SPECIAL CONDITIONS OF RELEASE ON BOND SET BY THE COURT:

- OPEN COURT ONLY BOND
- Obey all laws
- No contact or communication with victim(s) or the victim's family in any manner or through any medium
- Not to possess any weapon, firearm or ammunition
- Not knowingly be on the premises of or within 1,000 feet of the victim(s) residence, or place of employment/education.
- Not to be within the boundaries of the city of Ash Grove, Missouri
- Not to possess or consume alcohol or be on premises of establishment where the primary item for sale is alcoholic beverages
- Not to possess any drug/controlled substance unless prescribed for defendant by a physician
- No contact with children under seventeen (17) years of age (except his own biological child)
- Not to be on premises of any park, school, daycare, playground, recreational facility, or other place where children congregate
- GPS monitoring with house arrest 24 hours and 7 days a week. (Provider to report all violations to Court no later than within 24 hours)

-Travel exceptions for house arrest which must be prescheduled with Electronic Monitor/GPS provider:

- Defendant may travel directly to and from appointments with defense attorney
 - Defendant may travel directly to and from medical appointments
 - Defendant may travel directly to and from grocery store closest to residence
 - Defendant may travel directly to and from place of employment
- Other: Defendant must surrender his passport to the Ash Grove Police Department for safe-keeping as a condition of release. This bond recommendation is contingent upon the defendant turning himself in on December 15, 2014, as his attorney has indicated that he will do. If the defendant fails to do so, the State may ask the Court to reconsider the amount of the bond.

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF GREENE COUNTY, MISSOURI
Associate Division _____

STATE OF MISSOURI,)
Plaintiff,)
)
)
vs.) Case No.
)
WILLIAM NATHAN HERRINGTON,) OCN#
)
Defendant.) PA File No. 077335602
State of Missouri)
) ss.)
County of Greene)

FELONY COMPLAINT

COUNT I
(Missouri Charge Code: 1107799.)

The Prosecuting Attorney of the County of Greene, State of Missouri, charges that the defendant, in violation of Section 566.064, RSMo, committed the class C felony of statutory sodomy in the second degree, punishable upon conviction under Sections 558.011 and 560.011, RSMo, in that on or about October 9, 2014, in the County of Greene, State of Missouri, the defendant had deviate sexual intercourse with K.J. and at that time K.J. was less than seventeen years old and the defendant was twenty-one years of age or older.

COUNT II
(Missouri Charge Code: 2202399.)

The Prosecuting Attorney of the County of Greene, State of Missouri, charges that the defendant, in violation of Section 566.086, RSMo, committed the class D felony of sexual contact with a student on public school property, punishable upon conviction under Sections 558.011 and 560.011, RSMo, in that on or between October 5, 2014 and October 24, 2014, in the County of Greene, the defendant was a teacher for the Ash Grove School District, and knowingly had sexual contact with K.J., a student of Ash Grove School District, by touching the breasts of K.J. through the clothing for the purpose of arousing or gratifying the defendant's sexual desire, at the Ash Grove High School.

COUNT III
(Missouri Charge Code: 2211599.)

The Prosecuting Attorney of the County of Greene, State of Missouri, charges that the defendant, in violation of Section 566.068, RSMo, committed the class A misdemeanor of child molestation in the second degree punishable upon conviction under Sections 558.011 and 560.016, RSMo, in that on or between October 5, 2014 and October 24, 2014, in the County of Greene, State of Missouri, the defendant subjected K.J., who was then less than seventeen years old, to sexual contact.

The facts that form the basis for this information and belief are contained in the attached probable cause

statement concerning this matter, which statement is made a part hereof and is submitted herewith as a basis upon which this court may find the existence of probable cause for the issuance of the warrant.

WHEREFORE, the Prosecuting Attorney prays that an arrest warrant be issued as provided by law.

DAN PATTERSON
Prosecuting Attorney of the County of
Greene, State of Missouri, by



Electronically signed;
Emily Monroe
Assistant Prosecuting Attorney
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Emily Monroe, Assistant Prosecuting Attorney of the County of Greene, State of Missouri, being duly sworn, upon oath says that the facts stated in the above information are true, according to her best information, knowledge and belief.



Electronically signed;
Emily Monroe
Assistant Prosecuting Attorney