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From: "Tackett, David" <DLTackett@nccde.org>

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Sent: Wednesday, August 12, 2009 3:22:13 PM

Subject: HIGH IMPORTANCE - MAJOR NEWS RELEASE FROM NCCPD

I wanted to share this Press Release with you immediately (see below). Your safety as well as that of your children is a major priority to me and my office. Obviously you should be talking your children about the dangers of on-line social networking sites.

Please do me a favor, spend a few minutes tonight with your children! Please understand how important it is to monitor your children's activities 24/7.

The Honorable David L. Tackett

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New Castle County Police Department

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NEWS RELEASE

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August 12, 2009

Cyber Predator Charged with Raping 12 Year Old Girl, Linked to Second Victim

New Castle County Police have arrested **Nicholas T. Hoyt**, a 21 year old male who resides in the 100 block of Wembley Road in the community of Westgate Farms. He has been charged with eight counts of rape in the second degree after police linked him to a 12 year old female who he had repeated sexual encounters. The two met on the "My Space" social networking website. As a result of this investigation, detectives have found at least one additional victim, a 14 year old girl.

In late July, New Castle County Detectives investigated a reported rape that occurred in the 200 block of Campfield Road in the community of Scottfield. Investigators learned the victim had met a 21 year old male subject on the My Space website and had initially engaged in online conversations. Police became involved when the victim's parents called 911 after finding the online conversations that were sexual in nature. The victim disclosed to her parents that she had had a sexual relationship with the male subject on separate occasions at her home while her parents were out.

Detectives later executed a search warrant at his home and recovered evidence that linked him to the reported crimes. Nicolas Hoyt was arrested on August 4, 2009 and charged with eight counts of rape in the second degree. He was later arraigned and committed to the Howard Young Prison after failing to post \$240,000 cash bail.

The arrest information was temporarily withheld from release as an additional female victim (14) was developed in this case. Due to the sensitive nature of the interviews, his arrest information was not immediately released to the press.

Parents are urged to speak to their children about the dangers of cyber predators and ensure they have not had contact with the individual (Hoyt's) screen name, "Nickk302." To offer information about any encounters with the person, please contact Detective Jason Wilson at (302) 395-8110.

Additional charges stemming from the second victim are pending.

Nicholas Hoyt