



**BOONE COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT  
CYBER CRIMES TASK FORCE**

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**Primary Agencies:**

Boone County Sheriff's Dept.  
Boone County Prosecuting  
Attorney's Office  
University of Missouri Police  
Department  
Federal Bureau of Investigation

**Associate Agencies:**

Ashland Police Department  
Auxvasse Police Department  
Boonville Police Department  
Centralia Police Department  
Columbia Police Dept.  
Fayette Police Department  
Fulton Police Department  
Hallsville Police Department  
Holt's Summit Police Dept.  
Jefferson City Police  
Department  
Mexico Department of Public  
Safety  
Moberly Police Department  
Sturgeon Police Department  
New Franklin Police Department  
Audrain County Sheriff's Office  
Cooper County Sheriff's  
Department  
Callaway County Sheriff's  
Department  
Howard County Sheriff's  
Department  
Randolph County Sheriff's  
Department

**Media Release**

Incident: Man Arrested- Possession of Child Pornography

Location: Boone County

Case Number: 2017-3303

**Details:**

On Thursday, September 28, 2017, a Boone County man was arrested for possession of child pornography.

The investigation began on July 24, 2017, when the Boone County Sheriff's Department Cyber Crimes Task Force received a CyberTip report from the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children. The CyberTip reported a subject thought to be in Boone County had uploaded child pornography to Tumblr.

A Cyber Crimes investigator eventually identified the Tumblr account holder as Dakota Smith who was living in Columbia, Missouri. The child pornography files being uploaded to the account was of young prepubescent boys displaying their genitals.

On September 26, 2017, the investigator attempted to locate the defendant at the defendant's address, but learned the defendant wasn't home. The next day, the defendant sought out the investigator at the Sheriff's Department to speak about the investigation. During the interview, the defendant's cell phone was seized and after a forensic examination was conducted on the device, evidence was found that the defendant had been in possession of child pornography on September 26, 2017.

The defendant is identified as 21-year-old, Dakota Smith of Columbia, Missouri. The defendant was arrested on suspicion of 1 count of Possession of Child Pornography, less than 20 images. Bond was set at \$4,500.

All suspects are considered innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.

The Boone County Sheriff's Department Cyber Crimes Task Force is comprised of investigators from the Boone County Sheriff's Department, the University of Missouri Police Department, the Federal Bureau of Investigations and the Boone County Prosecuting Attorney's office.

This project is supported by funds made available through the State of Missouri Cyber Crimes Grant administered by the Missouri Department of Public Safety.

Release date & time: September 28, 2017 @ 1430 hrs  
Release Authorized by: Detective Tracy Perkins