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On September 13, 2012 an investigator with the South Milwaukee Police Department was contacted by a citizen witnesses who reported a 12 year old girl possibly being involved in sexual activity with an adult male who she had met via social media over the internet. Using this information an undercover sting operation was conducted and a 19 year old South Milwaukee man was arrested on September 18, 2012 when he arrived at a location in South Milwaukee for what he thought was going to be a sexual encounter with what he thought was a fourteen year old girl he had been texting.

Following this arrest, the investigation continued and the 12 year old girl told police that she had in fact been sexually assaulted by this same suspect after having met him over the internet. A search warrant was executed at the suspect's South Milwaukee residence on the afternoon of September 19, 2012. Computer(s), camera(s) and other items used for the collection, storage, and retrieval of digital video/data were recovered from the home. In addition, a hydroponic marijuana growing operation was discovered and seized from the suspect's bedroom closet. Preliminary examination of the electronic items produced evidence supporting the sexual assault of a child allegation. The analysis of the recovered electronics is on-going.

The suspect is currently in custody at the Milwaukee County Jail, charged with two counts of 1<sup>st</sup> Degree Sexual Assault of a Child - Under 13, and one count of Manufacturing of THC (Marijuana).

At this time there is no reason to believe that there were other victims, but the investigations will continue to make certain.

The South Milwaukee Police Department would like to take this opportunity to encourage everyone to be increasingly vigilant with regard to the supervision of children in the use of all forms of internet and social media.