

## **Human Trafficking Cases in July**

### **Raleigh Man Sentenced to 151 Months for Illegally Receiving Child Pornography**

*July 2, 2019*

Robert J. Higdon, Jr., the United States Attorney for the Eastern District of North Carolina, announces that United States District Judge Louise W. Flanagan sentenced William Trevor Soloff, 52, of Raleigh to 151 months' imprisonment, followed by 10 years of supervised released. Between March and May of 2017, the Apex North Carolina Police Department received four separate cyber tips from the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children (NCMEC) indicating that the user of an IP address, later identified as assigned to Soloff, uploaded one or more images of child pornography to chatrooms on the website Chatstep and to Soloff's Yahoo! Messenger account.

*Read full story here:*

[https://www.justice.gov/usao-ednc/pr/raleigh-man-sentenced-151-months-illegally-receiving-child-pornography?fbclid=IwAR1xPDecA5iAMlhCBy4lps2bpU8GKfPkV1\\_SDPEYYPGPhUhoIVSH1NxW3d8](https://www.justice.gov/usao-ednc/pr/raleigh-man-sentenced-151-months-illegally-receiving-child-pornography?fbclid=IwAR1xPDecA5iAMlhCBy4lps2bpU8GKfPkV1_SDPEYYPGPhUhoIVSH1NxW3d8)

### **2 charged in sex trafficking probe**

*July 8, 2019*

A Wilson County couple has been jailed under a combined \$4.5 million bond following a human trafficking investigation that led to nearly two dozen charges. The Wilson County Sheriff's Office started an investigation into 67-year-old James Bennett Tedder and 46-year-old Brenda Sue Bailey after a report was filed in June, said Wanda Samuel, sheriff's office chief of staff. Bailey, of 8148 Brooks Road, Kenly, is charged with three counts of human trafficking of a minor, three counts of aiding and abetting the taking of indecent liberties with a minor, five counts of aiding and abetting a statutory sex offense with a minor and one count of aiding and abetting statutory rape, officials said. Tedder, of 6457 U.S. 117, Lucama, is charged with three counts of taking indecent liberties with a minor, five counts of committing a statutory sex offense with a minor and one count of statutory rape.

*Read full story here: <http://www.wilsonsouth.com/stories/2-charged-in-sex-trafficking-probe,182588>*

### **Man accused of kidnapping 14-year-old twins is charged with sex crimes, NC cops say**

*July 10, 2019*

A North Carolina man has been charged in connection with trafficking twin 14-year-old girls from South Carolina. Derrell Davion Russell, 26, of Shelby, met the two teens, who thought he was close to their age, on social media and got them to agree to meet up with him back in March, according to WSOC. He then took the two girls from their South Carolina home to Cleveland County, North Carolina, and sexually assaulted one of them, WSOC reported. He was arrested and charged with first-degree and second-degree kidnapping, statutory rape of a child by an adult, two counts of solicitation by computer and two counts of human trafficking a child victim, according to the Cleveland County Sheriff's Office.

*Read the full story here:*

<https://www.newsobserver.com/news/state/north-carolina/article232508162.html?fbclid=IwAR3cXwqMxDIYxJ6c8IC-rLJ9nC74DUXFfEPOK6H5d5Aao1yYiVawzINxWRg>

## **Two Onslow County men arrested on child sex charges**

*July 10, 2019*

Two Onslow County men were arrested on Tuesday and face child sex charges in two separate cases, investigator say. In the first case, the Onslow County Sheriff's Office (OCSO) Special Victims' Unit (SVU) assisted the Federal Bureau of Investigation, Sexual Exploitation Task Force with an investigation and execution of a search warrant at the home of Matthew James Jones, age 55, of Stillwood Circle in Jacksonville. At Jones' home, agents seized computer devices containing photos and videos of child pornography. Jones was arrested without incident and was charged with 4 counts of Second Degree Sexual Exploitation of a Minor, and 4 counts of Third Degree Sexual Exploitation of a Minor. In the second case, OCSO deputies responded to a call about a domestic argument between a female caller and her boyfriend, Robert Daniel Wagner, age 33, of Avon Drive in Hubert. Deputies responding to that call discovered Wagner had inappropriately touched and photographed children known to him. Wagner was arrested on-site and charged with 1 count of Third Degree Sexual Exploitation of a Minor, and 1 count of Indecent Liberties with a Child.

*Read the full story here:*

[https://www.wnct.com/on-your-side/crime-tracker/two-onslow-county-men-arrested-on-child-sex-charges/?utm\\_medium=social&utm\\_source=facebook\\_WNCT-TV&fbclid=IwAR2GPqkXvV4IXbDkujlwKI7rvXGZMqv\\_7Od2K4WX1EgTu0fbWLVQRj62CXw](https://www.wnct.com/on-your-side/crime-tracker/two-onslow-county-men-arrested-on-child-sex-charges/?utm_medium=social&utm_source=facebook_WNCT-TV&fbclid=IwAR2GPqkXvV4IXbDkujlwKI7rvXGZMqv_7Od2K4WX1EgTu0fbWLVQRj62CXw)

## **Benson Man Sentenced to 30 Years Imprisonment After Soliciting Child Pornography from Minors on the Internet**

*July 16, 2019*

The United States Attorney for the Eastern District of North Carolina, Robert J. Higdon, Jr., announced that today, United States District Judge James C. Dever, III, sentenced Andrew Jonathan Bowles, 28, of Benson to 360 months' imprisonment, followed by 15 years of supervised release. Bowles pled guilty to one count of manufacturing child pornography on January 24, 2019. Law enforcement executed a search warrant at Bowles' Benson residence on December 6, 2018. They seized multiple electronic devices, which were found to contain over 2,600 images and 1,200 videos of child pornography. Further forensic examination of Bowles cellphone revealed that he had communicated online with children under 16 years old in an attempt to convince the children to send him sexual photographs. On two occasions, Bowles was successful, convincing minors to produce and send to him photographs depicting their genitals.

*Read full story here:*

<https://www.justice.gov/usao-ednc/pr/benson-man-sentenced-30-years-imprisonment-after-soliciting-child-pornography-minors?fbclid=IwAR1y5VppdbPYhoPgERwfrv2YGGEEaRBGwbrZvcs-CTaK5eI3a8VVJLyuNGUg>

## **Jacksonville man facing federal child sex crime charges involving three minor victims**

*July 24, 2019*

A Jacksonville man is facing federal child sex crime charges. United States Attorney for the Eastern District of North Carolina Robert Higdon, Jr. says the investigation into Morgan Shepard found that beginning in September of 2016 he enticed a minor to perform sex acts for the purpose of creating child pornography, which also amounted to sexual exploitation under North Carolina state law. In addition, Higdon says in April of 2018 Shepard enticed two other minor victims to engage in criminal sexual activity. Shepard was arrested in August of 2017 on statutory rape charges; the alleged victim was 13. In May of 2018, he was charged with soliciting a minor on social media.

*Read full story here:*

<https://wcti12.com/news/local/jacksonville-man-facing-federal-child-sex-crime-charges-involving-three-minor-victims>

