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Committed to Excellence

PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

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Bedford Man Arrested for Aggravated Sexual Battery of a Minor Child and Manufacturing of Child Pornography

Bedford, VA – A Bedford County man was arrested and charged on December 23, 2010, for Aggravated Sexual Battery of a Minor Child, and now faces additional charges for manufacturing of child pornography and faces even more charges of possessing child pornography and reproduction of child pornography.

Ricky Martin Sr. of 6228 Joppa Mill Road, Moneta, was arrested by members of the Southern Virginia Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force unit of the Bedford County Sheriff's Office and sheriff's Investigators. Immediately after the arrest members of the Southern Virginia Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force responded to the residence and executed a search warrant of the residence where computers and other electronic devices were removed from the residence along with hundreds of pieces of media (DVDs, VCRs, photographs), some of which contained sexually explicit images of minors, bestiality, sadist masochists' behavior and other sexually deviant fetishes.

Initial forensics of this evidence by our task force has taken investigators to North Carolina in search of additional victims and suspects. Criminal Investigators from the Bedford County Sheriff's Office and Investigators from the SOVA-ICAC Task Force are still working leads in Bedford County and working with Investigators in North Carolina.

In addition to the Aggravated Sexual Battery of a Minor Child the following charges have also been placed:

1 Count: VA Code 18.2-374.1-B2, Production of Child Pornography, which carries a penalty of 5 to 30 years, mandatory minimum of 5 years.

4 Counts: VA Code 18.2-374.1-C1, Second subsequent production of child pornography, which carries a penalty of 15 to 40 years, mandatory minimum of 15 years **on each count.**

Mr. Martin is being held in Blue Ridge Regional Jail on “No Bond.”

This investigation is on-going with additional arrests expected

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