



Rick Staly, Sheriff

## FLAGLER COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

*"An honor to serve, a duty to protect."*

# NEWS RELEASE

**Date:** Friday, March 22, 2019

**Contact:** Brittany Kershaw | (386) 586-2637 | [bkershaw@flaglersheriff.com](mailto:bkershaw@flaglersheriff.com)

## **Flagler County Man Indicted for Sex Trafficking of a Minor**

Jacksonville, Florida – United States Attorney Maria Chapa Lopez announces the return by a grand jury of an indictment charging Sean Patrick Farrelly (47, Palm Coast) with sex trafficking of a minor girl. If convicted, Farrelly faces a mandatory minimum of 10 years, and up to life, in federal prison.

According to the indictment, between approximately March 2018 and February 2019, Farrelly recruited, enticed, transported, obtained, maintained, patronized, and solicited a girl under age of 18 years old to engage in a commercial sex act.

An indictment is merely a formal charge that a defendant has committed one or more violations of federal criminal law, and every defendant is presumed innocent unless, and until, proven guilty.

This case was investigated by the Flagler Sheriff's Office and the Federal Bureau of Investigation. It will be prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Ashley Washington.

This case was brought as part of Project Safe Childhood, a nationwide initiative launched in May 2006 by the Department of Justice to combat the growing epidemic of child sexual exploitation and abuse. Led by United States Attorneys' Offices and the Criminal Division's Child Exploitation and Obscenity Section (CEOS), Project Safe Childhood marshals federal, state, and local resources to locate, apprehend, and prosecute individuals who sexually exploit children, and to identify and rescue victims. For more information about Project Safe Childhood, please visit [www.projectsafefchildhood.gov](http://www.projectsafefchildhood.gov).

"We appreciate our partnership with the FBI and the U.S. Attorney's Office in charging him with a federal crime," Sheriff Rick Staly said. "I hope that he spends a long time in federal prison where he belongs."

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901 East Moody Blvd, Bunnell, FL 32110 – 386-437-4116 – Fax 386-586-4820 – [www.flaglersheriff.com](http://www.flaglersheriff.com)