



Rick Staly, Sheriff
FLAGLER COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

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

NEWS RELEASE

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Prepared by: Joseph Bober, Public Information Officer
Email: PIO@flaglersheriff.com
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FCSO Arrests Man Who Was "Dating" Child Following Report from Concerned Parent

BUNNELL, Fla. — The Flagler County Sheriff's Office has arrested a Palm Coast man after a monthlong investigation revealed that he was in a sexual relationship with a minor. The investigation began after the victim's parent discovered the relationship and reported it to FCSO.

On Sept. 16, deputies and a mental health specialist from the FCSO Behavioral Response Unit responded to a Palm Coast residence after the concerned parent reported she had a strong suspicion that a 20-year-old man had been having sex with her teenage child. The victim's parent told deputies that she had discovered her child had been in a relationship with the man, whom she could only identify as "Brandon," for approximately three months.

At the parent's request, deputies retrieved the victim's cellphone and iPad for FCSO's Digital Forensics Unit to conduct a forensic autopsy and obtain further evidence for the Major Case Unit's investigation.

After a digital forensic review of the victim's devices, detectives determined the man, identified through investigative means as Brandon Raymond, 20, of Palm Coast, had communicated with the victim through text messages, Snapchat, and Instagram. The data recovered from the victim's devices included sexually explicit messages, which referred to past sexual activity between them.

On Oct. 1, a Florida Department of Health Child Protection Team conducted an interview with the victim. During the interview, they confirmed detectives' previous determinations that Raymond and the victim had been in a relationship for approximately three months and communicated with each

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other through text, Snapchat, and Instagram. They also learned that, according to the victim, Raymond was aware the victim was a minor and that the two had sex on multiple occasions, including in Raymond's vehicle.

On Oct. 8, detectives obtained warrants to search Raymond's vehicle, obtain his DNA, and seize his cellphone.

Two days later, detectives located Raymond in the parking lot of a grocery store in Flagler Beach. During their conversation, Raymond confirmed details that detectives had previously determined, including that he was aware of the victim's age and that they had sex on at least two occasions. Following their conversation, detectives seized Raymond's vehicle and phone and obtained a DNA sample.

The FCSO Crime Scene Investigations Unit conducted a forensic analysis of the vehicle. CSI investigators found biological fluids on the backseat of the vehicle and multiple items of clothing located in the vehicle's trunk. The evidence was submitted to the Florida Department of Law Enforcement for further analysis.

At the conclusion of the investigation, detectives determined that Raymond had unlawfully engaged in sexual activity with a minor. On Nov. 7, they obtained a warrant for Raymond's arrest for two counts of lewd or lascivious battery of a minor.

That evening, the Problem Area Crime Enforcement Unit located Raymond at his residence and arrested him on his active warrant. He was transported to the Sheriff Perry Hall Inmate Detention Facility, where he was later released on a \$50,00 bond.



Photo 1: Deputies arrest Brandon Raymond, center, in Palm Coast on Nov. 7, 2025.

Photo 2: Brandon Raymond (Sheriff Perry Hall Inmate Detention Facility mug shot)

"This offender was fully aware this child he was having sex was just that — a child," said Sheriff Rick Staly. "Fortunately, the child's parent understood how serious the situation was and contacted law enforcement. I commend the parent for being the Sheriff in their home, as well as the dedicated team

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members from our patrol, Major Case, Digital Forensics, CSI, Behavioral Response, and PACE units who worked hard to make this case and arrest him. Now, he can face justice for taking advantage of a young child.”

Raymond’s arrest was his third in two weeks. In addition to the arrest resulting from the FCSO investigation, deputies recently arrested Raymond twice in relation to an investigation conducted by the Volusia Sheriff’s Office into a shooting in Ormond Beach.

On Nov. 1, deputies arrested Raymond on a Volusia County warrant for aggravated assault with a deadly weapon and two counts of shooting or throwing a deadly missile into a vehicle. He was transported to the Sheriff Perry Hall Inmate Detention Facility and later released on a \$55,000 bond.

Then, on Tuesday, deputies arrested Raymond again on a Volusia County warrant for tampering with a witness. He was transported back to the Sheriff Perry Hall Inmate Detention Facility, where he was initially being held on a \$50,000 bond. His bond was later revoked, and he was turned over to the Volusia Sheriff’s Office.

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