



RICHARD A. BROWN
DISTRICT ATTORNEY

**DISTRICT ATTORNEY
QUEENS COUNTY**
125-01 QUEENS BOULEVARD
KEW GARDENS, NEW YORK 11415-1568
718-286-6000

Release # 219-2009
www.queensda.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 8, 2009

CONTACT: QDA PRESS OFFICE
(718) 286-6315

NEW JERSEY MAN PLEADS GUILTY IN MOLESTATION CASE
INVOLVING 13-YEAR-OLD FORMER QUEENS NEIGHBOR

*Tried To Get Victim To Drop Charges By Pretending To Be Police;
Now Faces 1-3 Years In Prison*

Queens District Attorney Richard A. Brown today announced that a 22-year-old Union, New Jersey, man who befriended and sexually abused a 13-year-old female – who used to be his neighbor in Flushing – has pleaded guilty in the case by admitting that he promoted a sexual performance of the victim by directing the underage teenage girl to take naked pictures of herself and send them to him and by violating an order of protection in which he contacted the victim online, pretending to be the police, and demanded that she drop the charges against him.

District Attorney Brown said, “From the very beginning, the defendant attempted to manipulate the 13-year-old victim in this case for his own selfish ends. Fortunately, she had the maturity to eventually see through his deceptions and take action. While today’s guilty plea will spare the victim from the emotional trauma of testifying at trial, the defendant must live with the knowledge of what he has done and the pain that he has caused.”

The District Attorney identified the defendant as Bryan Vasquez, 22, who formerly lived in Flushing Queens, and presently resides at 1584 Andrew Street, Union, New Jersey. Vasquez appeared yesterday before Queens Supreme Court Justice Fernando Camacho and pleaded guilty to promoting a sexual performance of a child and first-degree criminal contempt. Sentencing was scheduled for January 7, 2010, at which time Justice Camacho indicated that he would sentence Vasquez to one to three years in prison. At the conclusion of his jail sentence, the defendant will be required to register as a sex offender.

District Attorney Brown said that, according to the charges, Vasquez befriended the victim – who lived in the same Flushing apartment building as he – in February 2009 by giving her e-mail address and telling her to contact him – even though she told him that she was 13-years-old. Soon thereafter, she received e-mails from the defendant, which contained photographs depicting the lewd exhibition of his genitals, and directed her do the same for him. Beginning on February 20, 2009, Vasquez began having sexual contact with the victim. This lasted until March 16, 2009, when Vasquez became angry because the victim had left a note by his apartment door, which his girlfriend had discovered, and assaulted her by punching her in the eye and on the arms and tripping her.

Vasquez was arrested on March 20, 2009, and arraigned on assault, sexual abuse and other charges. A full order of protection was issued for the victim, in which the defendant was to refrain from any contact or communication with the victim – including e-mail.

-MORE-

On April 2, 2009, the victim received an e-mail purportedly from the New York City Police, which stated that: the police knew she was lying; she should go to court to drop the charges against the defendant; the NYPD was watching her; they had found the naked pictures of herself that she had sent to the defendant; and if she did not drop the charges they would distribute the pictures.

An investigation revealed that the e-mail address “THENYCPOLICE@AOL.COM” belonged to the defendant. At the time, Vasquez was living in New Jersey. A search warrant was obtained for his Union, N.J. residence with the assistance of the NYPD Computer Crimes Squad and the Union County Prosecutor’s Office, and additional evidence was discovered on a computer recovered at the location.

Vasquez was re-arrested on June 23, 2009, and charged with additional crimes.

The investigation was conducted by officers assigned to the New York City Police Department’s 109th Precinct; Detective Miguel Rios, of the NYPD Computer Crimes Squad, under the supervision of Sergeant Felix Rivera and Lieutenant Dennis Lane and the overall supervision of Deputy Chief Jeremiah J. Quinlan; and the Union County (N.J.) Prosecutor’s Office. Also assisting in the investigation were Assistant District Attorneys George Farrugia, Supervisor, and Richard B. Sikes, both of whom are assigned to the District Attorney’s Criminal Court/Intake Bureau.

Senior Assistant District Attorney Kateri A. Gasper prosecuted the case under the supervision of Robert D. Alexander, Chief of the District Attorney’s Computer Crimes Unit, and Assistant District Attorneys Anthony M. Communiello, Chief of the District Attorney’s Special Prosecutions Bureau, and Oscar W. Ruiz, Deputy Bureau Chief, and the overall supervision of Executive Assistant District Attorney for Investigations Peter A. Crusco and Deputy Executive Assistant District Attorney for Investigations Linda M. Cantoni.

#

Note to Editors: E-version of this press release posted at www.queensda.org