



**WARREN COUNTY
SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT
Kevin T. Harrison, Sheriff**



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PRESS RELEASE

April 13, 2010 @ 3:30pm

Warren County Sheriff Kevin Harrison reports the arrest of a 47 year old man from Warrenton on April 12, 2010 for charges of sexual abuse of a child. The charges originated from a complaint received on April 12, 2010 from a friend of the victim reporting the molestation by the suspect. The investigation was conducted by Detectives Aaron Sutton and Scott Schoenfeld. The suspect was identified as:



Mark A. Shepherd, W, M, 47 Years Old
29000 Block of Prairie Estates Road in Warrenton MO
Statutory Rape 2nd Degree
Statutory Sodomy 2nd Degree
Tampering with a Victim

Investigation determined that Shepherd had inappropriate sexual contact with the 15 year-old female victim, and insisted to her afterwards to not talk to anybody about the incident. Shepherd is currently incarcerated in the Warren County Jail with a \$50,000.00 cash or surety bond.

Harrison stated this was the third unrelated investigation of this type in the past month, and attributes such to victims possibly drawing the strength and encouragement to disclose their abuse by seeing others come forward regarding similar situations. The investigation of physical and sexual abuse of children has always received a high priority within the Sheriff's Office. Investigators receive advanced training to handle such cases in an expeditious and compassionate manner to minimize further trauma to the victim, while at the same time presenting a prosecutable case, and getting the offender off the street and out of our community as quickly as possible.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kevin T. Harrison".
Sheriff Kevin T. Harrison