

Deputies Arrest Vernonia Man on Child Sex Abuse Charges

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Sheriff's deputies acting on the information from an alleged 13-year-old victim yesterday arrested a 62-year-old Vernonia man on felony child sex abuse charges. Deputies subsequently served a search warrant at the suspect's home, seizing electronic equipment related to this ongoing investigation.

Gene Baska, 62, Vernonia, was taken into custody following a traffic stop and later charged with one count of Luring a Minor, and one Count of Attempt to Commit Sex Abuse, First Degree. Both crimes are felonies. Baska bailed out of jail Wednesday evening with a no-contact order for the victim and her family.

The case came to light after a sexually explicit message transmitted digitally to the victim was alleged to have come from Baska. Deputies obtained a search warrant to search for "digital images, motion pictures, digital videos, photographs, digital audio recordings, text messages, call records," etc. and served the warrant at 16802, Keasey Road, Vernonia Wednesday evening.

This case is an ongoing investigation. There is a chance that other victims are out there. Investigators request those having any information in regard to this case or this individual to call our recorded Tip Line at [\(503\) 366-4698](tel:5033664698) and leave any relevant information.