



# NEWS RELEASE

HOWARD COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF POLICE  
OFFICE OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS

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## **Police Seek Man Wanted in Sexual Assault of 14-Year-Old** *\$1,000 Reward Offered for Information Leading to Arrest*

Howard County Police are searching for a man wanted for sexually assaulting a 14-year-old girl. Fermin Aseituno Mejia, 42, formerly of the 3200 block of Normandy Woods Drive in Ellicott City, has been charged with attempted second degree rape, third and fourth degree sex offense, second degree assault and indecent expose.

The assault took place on Aug. 22 at approximately 2:15 p.m. in the 3000 block of Oak Green Circle in Ellicott City. The victim, who will not be identified due to her age and the nature of the crime, was walking back to her family's apartment when the suspect grabbed her and pushed her into a laundry room. The suspect then fondled and sexually assaulted the girl. The victim was able to flee and reported the incident to her mother, who contacted police.

Based on information gained from the victim, detectives were able to quickly identify Mejia as the suspect. When investigators attempted to locate Mejia late last week, they found he had not been in the area for several days. Police believe he may be hiding from police and attempting to flee the country.

Police are asking anyone with information about Mejia, his contacts or possible location to contact police immediately. Police are offering a \$1,000 reward for information leading to his arrest.

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Note: A photo of Mejia is attached. He is described as a Hispanic male, 42 years old, 5'4" tall, 160 lbs., with black hair and a mustache. He drives a red Ford Ranger pickup truck.

