



NEWS RELEASE

HOWARD COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF POLICE OFFICE OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS

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Contact: Sherry Llewellyn
(410) 313-2236

Police Release Identity of Suspect in Sexual Assault of Child

Howard County Police arrested a suspect late this afternoon in the sexual assault of a 5-year-old girl. Miguel Ramos, 34 (DOB: 12/9/68), of 5822 Stevens Forest Road in Columbia, has been charged with second-, third- and fourth-degree sex offenses and second-degree assault.

Police received a report late Monday that the 5-year-old girl was sexually assaulted by a stranger Sunday afternoon. The child's parents contacted police after the girl told them about the incident.

The child reported to police that she and her brother were riding bikes at Jackson Pond in the Long Reach area of Columbia when they were approached by an unknown man around 2:00 p.m. The girl told detectives that the man distracted her brother by inviting him to fish and then took her to a nearby area where he touched her inappropriately.

Through investigation, detectives learned that during the incident, the little girl knocked the suspect's cell phone from his belt and into the pond. A dive team from the Howard County Department of Fire and Rescue recovered the phone, which detectives used to track the suspect. Police served a search warrant at Ramos' residence this evening and obtained evidence that resulted in tonight's charges.

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