



# NEWS RELEASE

## HOWARD COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF POLICE OFFICE OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS

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### **Howard County police charge two Virginia men with human trafficking and prostitution**

Howard County police have charged two Virginia men with human trafficking and prostitution following a month-long undercover investigation.

James Michael Warhurst, 32, of Manassas, Va., and Ali Reza Rohanimanesh, 28, of Front Royal, Va., were arrested in Laurel on Nov. 5. Both are charged with human trafficking and two counts of prostitution.

Warhurst contacted an undercover detective through social media in October, offering her a job as an “escort.” He stated she would be expected to perform sexual acts in exchange for money and pay a percentage of the earnings to him. He explained she would have several “dates” each night and that she would be expected to engage in sexual activity with him, as well.

He continued to converse with the undercover detective over several weeks, offering a similar job to her “friend.” He arranged to pick up the two women in Laurel and transport them back to Virginia for the purposes of performing sex acts for money.

Warhurst and a second suspect, Ali Reza Rohanimanesh, who was driving, arrived at a predetermined location in the 10000 of Washington Blvd. in Laurel, met with an undercover detective they believed to be one of the women Warhurst had been conversing with and were taken into custody.

They are currently being held at the Howard County Detention Center. Warhurst’s bond is set at \$25,000, Rohanimanesh’s at \$10,000.

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