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News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:
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Investigation Leads to Arrest of Tampico, Illinois Man

On June 22nd, 2020, Winnebago County Sheriff's Deputies received a report of a sexual assault of a juvenile female. The juvenile had been reported as a runaway on June 18, 2020. Detectives launched an investigation which revealed that a 12 year old female had been in contact with a 31 year old male. The male, was identified as Brandon L. Abell of Tampico, Illinois. During the course of the investigation, Detectives located child pornography and determined that the victim was sexually assaulted at a residence on Horace Avenue within Winnebago County.

The Winnebago County State's Attorney's Office reviewed the facts of the case and the following charges were authorized:

Brandon L. Abell (DOB: 10/24/1988), of Tampico, Illinois

- Predatory Criminal Sexual Assault (Five Counts)
- Child Pornography
- Kidnapping
- Traveling To Meet A Minor
- Indecent Solicitation Of A Child
- Grooming

On July 2, 2020, Whiteside County Sheriff's Deputies executed a warrant at Brandon L. Abell's residence in Tampico, Illinois, where he was taken into custody. Abell is currently being held on \$500,000 bond.

The charges are merely allegations and Mr. Abell is presumed innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.

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