



POLICE DEPARTMENT

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**Online Solicitation of a Minor (under the age of 14)**

New Braunfels, Texas — On April 17<sup>th</sup>, 2017, the New Braunfels Police Department received a report from a mother who said her 13-year old son had been sent sexually explicit material by text message from an adult male. The case was immediately turned over to detectives with the NBPD Criminal Investigations Division.

In the weeks that followed, detectives were able to develop enough evidence that on May 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2017, they were able to obtain and execute a search warrant for a residence in the 500 block of East Torrey Street. Based on evidence obtained during that search, on May 4<sup>th</sup>, 2017, detectives obtained an arrest warrant for 28-year old Blaine Tafolla Gunter of New Braunfels, charging him with Online Solicitation of a Minor (under the age of 14). The investigation revealed that Gunter had met the child through the use of a sexually explicit website/cell phone app before exchanging phone numbers with the child, leading to the explicit text messages.

Gunter was taken into custody on May 4<sup>th</sup>, 2017, at his workplace here in New Braunfels and taken to the Comal County Jail. As of this release, he remained in custody with bond set at \$75,000. Online Solicitation of a Minor (under the age of 14) is a 2<sup>nd</sup> degree felony, punishable, if convicted, by 2 to 20 years in prison and a fine of up to \$10,000 (TPC 33.021).

{Photo attached: Comal County Jail booking photo of Blaine Gunter}

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