

Accused child rapist out on bond

Written by By Babette Herrmann Sun Editor
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Sterling Long was scheduled for extradition from Navajo County Jail in Holbrook, Ariz. to McKinley County Adult Detention Center to face multiple felony sexual assault charges, but before that could take place he was released on a \$50,000 cash only bond Sept. 24.

According to the affidavit for arrest warrant, Long molested and performed oral acts on a 9-year-old girl. The girl's mom was at work during the time of the incident and was counting on her boyfriend Long to take care of the kids.

The mother told the Gallup Police Department's Criminal Investigations Division that they had just moved, and were staying at a local hotel while waiting for utilities to be turned on, according to the affidavit, compiled by GPD Officer Mark Spencer.

The alleged incident took place Aug. 17 and the affidavit warrant describes the assault in graphic detail, including how Long, 36, used his cellphone to video record his depraved acts. He recorded three video segments involving the girl – 24-seconds, 32-seconds, and one-minute, 50-seconds long, respectively.

Long claimed to be "high and drunk" as an excuse for his behavior, the affidavit states. Long faces two counts of criminal sexual penetration of a minor in the first degree and two counts criminal sexual contact of a minor in the third degree.

He made his first appearance in Gallup Magistrate Court Sept. 25. His preliminary examination takes place 1:30 pm. on Oct. 14. At this time, he hasn't entered a plea.

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