



## Tigard Police Department NEWS RELEASE

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### **MAN ARRESTED ON FEDERAL CHILD EXPLOITATION CHARGES**

A man was arrested on federal child exploitation charges in Tigard yesterday in connection to an investigation led by Homeland Security Investigations (HSI).

On March 2, 2022, federal agents identified John Middendorp, age 32, when he attempted to contact a minor on Facebook. Mr. Middendorp allegedly asked the user if she was a virgin, attempted to video-chat with her, and sent her a sexually explicit image. Over the next several days, Mr. Middendorp continued to engage in sexually explicit conversation with the user and agreed to meet her.

On March 9, 2022, HSI Portland and the Tigard Police Department conducted an undercover sting operation and Mr. Middendorp was arrested at his home in Tigard. HSI Portland then executed a search warrant on his home and seized a laptop and a cell phone.

Mr. Middendorp has been charged by federal criminal complaint with attempted sexual exploitation of a child, attempted transfer of obscene material to a minor, and failure to register as a sex offender. He made his initial appearance today in federal court.

A criminal complaint is only an accusation of a crime, and a defendant is presumed innocent unless and until proven guilty.

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