

## Rick Staly, Sheriff FLAGLER COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

"An honor to serve, a duty to protect."

## **NEWS RELEASE**

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Prepared by: Public Affairs Office Email: PAO@flaglersheriff.com

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## Palm Coast Man Arrested for Molesting a Minor

BUNNELL, Fla. — On September 4, Joseph Thomas Horovsky, 21, of Palm Coast was arrested for sexually touching a child under the age of 12.

Flager County Sheriff's Office Major Case Unit detectives started the investigation in June 2023 when the victim first came forward. The victim told detectives the molestation occurred over the past 2 to 3 years. In one incident, the victim said during the summer of 2022 she was playing video games when Horovsky reached into her underwear and started touching her. The victim would have been 10 years old at the time. Another incident happened after the victim took a shower and Horovsky entered and began touching her under a towel. In all, the victim stated there were 5 incidents of Horovsky touching her in a sexual manner.

Major Case Unit detectives worked hundreds of hours over the next 15 months investigating Horovsky and building a prosecutable case. On September 4, detectives obtained a warrant, and Horovsky was arrested for Lewd and Lascivious Molestation by Person 18 Years of Age or Older with Victim less than 12 Years of Age. He was transported to the Sheriff Perry Hall Inmate Detention Facility, where he is being held without bond.

"This pervert is now locked up in the Green Roof Inn where he can't touch children, thanks to a courageous child that came forward explaining what happened to her for years," said Sheriff Rick Staly. "Our Major Case Unit detectives spent more than a year thoroughly investigating this case against this predator. We will not tolerate disgusting behavior that is traumatizing to children that takes their innocence away. I pray that our victim receives the counseling she may need to help her through these traumatic events."

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Joseph Thomas Horovsky (Flagler County Jail Mugshot)

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