



HARRISON COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT

TROY J. PETERSON
SHERIFF

P.O. BOX 1480 ♦ GULFPORT, MISSISSIPPI 39502 ♦ 228-896-0606

*****PRESS RELEASE***
For Immediate Release**

On Wednesday, November 29, 2017, Sheriff Troy Peterson announced the arrest of 38 year old Nicholas Puffer who resides at 831-A Oakleigh Ave. Gulfport, MS on three (3) felony charges of Touching of a Child for Lustful Purposes.

According to Sheriff Troy Peterson, the arrest stemmed from a report filed by the victim, who is now 18 years of age, alleging Puffer had sexually molested her between the ages of 7 to 11 years of age while Puffer was married to her mother. The alleged incidents occurred within Harrison County jurisdiction of Pass Christian, MS. After investigators conducted interviews, a warrant for Puffer's arrest was issued. Puffer was arrested at his place of employment in Ocean Springs, MS with the assistance of Ocean Springs Police Department.

Nicholas Puffer was booked into the Harrison County Adult Detention Facility and charged with three counts of Touching of a Child for Lustful Purposes. Puffer is being held in lieu of a \$300,000.00 dollar bond set by Justice Court Judge Diane Ladner.

Investigative Officer: Inv Alicia Handler

Arresting Officer(s): Inv Alicia Handler & Deputy McClendon

Approved For Release: _____
Troy J. Peterson, Sheriff, Harrison County, Mississippi

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be "TJP", located in the bottom right corner of the document.