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

PRESS RELEASE For Immediate Release

On August 3, 2020, Sheriff Troy Peterson announced the arrest of 36 year old Joshua Cole Ladner who resides in Pass Christian, MS on one (1) felony charge of Touching of a Child for Lustful Purposes.

According to Sheriff Troy Peterson, the arrest stemmed from a report filed by the mother of the victim, a 15 year old female, alleging her father, Ladner, had sexually molested her. The alleged incident occurred within Harrison County jurisdiction of Pass Christian, MS. After investigators conducted interviews, a warrant for Ladner's arrest was issued. On August 2, 2020 Ladner was arrested at his mother's residence located in Diamondhead, MS with the assistance of the Hancock County Sheriff's Office.

Joshua Ladner was booked into the Harrison County Adult Detention Facility and charged with one count of Touching of a Child for Lustful Purposes. Ladner is being held in lieu of a \$100,000.00 dollar bond set by Justice Court Judge Brandon Ladner pending his initial appearance.

Investigative Officer: <u>In</u>	v Alicia Handler	
Arresting Officer(s): Inv	. Alicia Handler & Inv. Avery Farish	
Approved For Release:		
	Troy J. Peterson, Sheriff, Harrison County, Mississippi	