



**WINTER HAVEN**  
*The Chain of Lakes City*  
**POLICE DEPARTMENT**  
Gary W. Hester, Chief of Police

Date: October 24, 2011

Time: 3 P.M.

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WINTER HAVEN – Winter Haven Police have arrested an Ohio man after he traveled to Florida to meet up with a thirteen-year-old girl.

On Oct. 22, 2011 at approximately 3:22 p.m., police were called to the Winter Haven Public Library when someone saw baggage sitting in the women's restroom. Police found the victim sitting outside of the building with several pieces of luggage. As she was being questioned, Jonathan Carl Sampson (W/M, DOB 6/19/86, 7 Front Street, Rittman, Ohio 44270) approached and told police that he was the victim's friend and was taking her back to Ohio with him.

It was discovered that the two met online through Playstation games. They communicated this way multiple times. The victim told Sampson that she was 18 years old, but Sampson told police he thought she may be 17 years-old after seeing a photo that she sent to him. The victim knew Sampson was 25 years old.

Sampson offered to come to Florida to take her back with him to get to know each other better and hopefully something more might come of the relationship in the future.

Sampson was arrested and booked in the Polk County Jail on charges of Traveling to Meet A Minor (F-2), Interfering With Child Custody (F-3) and Contributing To the Delinquency of A Minor (M-1).