SANTA CRUZ POLICE DEPARTMENT
155 Center Street, Santa Cruz, CA 95060

MEDIA RELEASE

DATE/TIME: March 21, 2012 **LOCATION:** Arrest Location - SCPD

TOPIC: Child Molest ARREST **CASE NUMBER:** 12S-01824

INVOLVED SUBJECTS:

1. **Name:** David Escobar **Arrested:** [X] Yes [ ] No

DOB: 42 years-old **Charges:** 288(a), 289, 288.2, 288.3

Address: Scotts Valley Resident

VICTIM: Female Juvenile – 14 years-old – Santa Cruz City Resident

INFORMATION:

In late February, Santa Cruz Police Department investigators received a tip from a parent about possible inappropriate contact between a 42 year-old male and a 14 year-old juvenile. The parent of the juvenile claimed that the subject, David Escobar, was engaging in inappropriate Facebook and text message communications with the juvenile that were sexual in nature.

Over the course of the next few weeks, detectives were able to determine that Mr. Escobar had sent nearly 3,800 text messages to the victim in one month and also communicated with her via Facebook and gaming networks. It appears that Mr. Escobar arranged to meet the victim at her school during lunch on multiple occasions and would engage in sexual activity with her in his vehicle. On March 21, 2012 officers went to Mr. Escobar's work to interview him. Based on statements made by Mr. Escobar, and information obtained from social media and text messages, Mr. Escobar was arrested for lewd acts with a minor, contacting a minor with intent to have sex, sending inappropriate images to a minor and other charges.

Mr. Escobar used multiple platforms, cell phones, gaming consoles and social network sites to communicate with the victim and Santa Cruz Police Department investigators are actively working to determine if there are any additional local victims. Therefore, investigators are asking that anyone with additional information should contact Santa Cruz Police Department Investigations at 831.420.5820 or leave a tip via the iPhone app or on our website at www.santacruzpolice.com

To Leave ANONYMOUS information regarding this incident, please call our TIP LINE (831) 420-5995