

Maricopa County Sheriff's Office
Joe Arpaio, Sheriff
News Brief

August 26, 2007

School Bus Driver Arrested in Molestation

Late last night, the Maricopa County Sheriff's Special Victims Unit arrested Queen Creek resident John Joseph Byrne (DOB 9/4/44) on child molestation charges.

Byrne, a 62-year-old bus driver for the Queen Creek Unified School District, was taken into custody after a 15-year-old, female student reported to Sheriff's detectives that she had been molested by Byrne over a three year period, beginning her 7th grade year. The victim reported that her molestation occurred on the school bus when they were alone, and had escalated into sexual intercourse this past Friday, August 24, 2007 (on the bus).

Suspect Byrne gave admission to Sheriff's deputies that he was engaging in a sexual relationship with the young female, starting when she was age 14.

Sheriff's detectives arrested and booked John Byrne on two counts of SEXUAL CONDUCT WITH MINOR (class 2 felonies), 1 count of SEXUAL ABUSE (a class 3 felony), 3 counts of SEXUAL ABUSE (class 5 felonies), and 8 counts of SEXUAL CONDUCT WITH MINOR (class 6 felonies). Byrnes remains in custody at the Sheriff's 4th Avenue Jail.

Contact SheriffsMediaRequests@MCSO.Maricopa.Gov with inquiries.

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