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PRESS RELEASE

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For Immediate Release

The Covington Police Department and Tipton County Sheriff's Office are jointly investigating allegations of sexual misconduct involving a local teacher and multiple juveniles.

On 24 August 2023, the Covington Police Department (CPD) Criminal Investigation Division (CID) received information from a referral filed with the Tennessee Department of Children Services (DCS) regarding allegations of sexual misconduct that had been reported, involving a teacher and a former student. CPD detectives began the investigation and confirmed the teacher had been suspended without pay from her position by Tipton County Schools due to the allegations.

The teacher was identified as **Alissa McCommon, 38, of Covington, TN**. Multiple juvenile victims have come forth stating that they were befriended by their former teacher, McCommon, who began playing video games with them, and then further engaged with them through mobile phone social media apps, which led to her allegedly sending inappropriate photographs and requesting sexual relations with the victims. McCommon admitted to communicating inappropriately with former students. There has been no evidence that any of the alleged activities occurred on any school campus. The Tipton County Sheriff's Office (TCSO) detectives began working jointly with CPD detectives after receiving information regarding a victim or victims who were exposed to similar circumstances within the county's jurisdiction, outside of Covington city limits. The investigation is continuing in nature as the evidence further develops. Further specific allegations are omitted due to the involvement of minors as victims.

Today, Alissa McCommon was arrested and charged with Rape of a Child. McCommon was transported to the Tipton County jail and a \$25,000.00 bond has been set in the case. Detectives with both the Tipton County Sheriff's Office and Covington Police Department continue to interview witnesses and identifying victims in the case. Detectives have met with the District Attorney's Office about the ongoing multi-jurisdictional investigation. Additional charges are expected.

"Covington Police Department Detectives continue to investigate this terrible exploitation and abuse of these young boys. We expect to also develop the investigation to determine accountability of other adults in the case, including those who were aware of the abuse, and

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those who allowed or provided locations for such illegal acts to occur. I am thankful for the continued assistance by Tipton County School officials during this investigation.” said Chief Donna Turner. “I have also spoken with the US Attorney’s Office, and we intend to pursue any appropriate federal charges related to the sexual exploitation of these victims utilizing cellphones, inappropriate relations, and activities across jurisdictional State lines. We will prosecute this case to the fullest and will continue to support the victims and their families during all aspects of the investigation.”

If anyone has any information, or if you are concerned that your child may have been victimized, please contact the Covington Police Department CID at 901-475-1261 or the Tipton County Sheriff’s Office CID at 901-475-3300.

Tips can also be sent through the Covington Police Department Facebook messenger or the City of Covington website.



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