

Placerville Police News Release



For Immediate Release

Contact: Commander Maciel

Release Date: 12-15-2022

Case Number: PG2201976



DIAMOND SPRINGS MAN ARRESTED FOR INAPPROPRIATE CONTACT WITH A MINOR

NEWS RELEASE

Placerville Police Department
Media Relations
Office of the Chief of Police
730 Main Street, Placerville, CA 95667

Placerville, CA – On 12/8/2022, the Placerville Police Department initiated an investigation into allegations that 45 year old Joshua John Bowen of Diamond Springs, CA was involved in ongoing inappropriate contact, through social media, with two male juvenile Placerville residents, ages 13 and 16. The juveniles notified their parents that Bowen had contacted them on social media and engaged them in inappropriate dialogue and sharing of pornographic photographs.

The Placerville Police Department immediately launched an investigation into these allegations. It was confirmed through the collection of evidence that the allegations of sending pornographic material and soliciting a child for sexual purposes had occurred.

Placerville Police Department Crime Reduction Team immediately put Bowen under surveillance and initiated a “sting” operation. It was arranged for Bowen to meet the juvenile at a local motel for the purpose of engaging in sexual activities.

While Bowen was checking into the motel, under the surveillance of the Crime Reduction Team, Placerville Police patrol units were directed to move in and take Bowen into custody. Bowen was arrested without incident and brought back to the police department for an initial interview. Bowen was then booked into the El Dorado County jail for the below listed charges.

Crime Reduction Team detectives then served a search warrant on Bowen’s Diamond Springs residence, where he lives alone. Bowen’s vehicle was also impounded, and a search warrant was served on it as well. Multiple items of evidence were recovered from the inside of the residence and vehicle, including electronics that will be examined with the assistance of El Dorado County Sheriff’s Office High Tech Unit.

Placerville Police Department would like to remind parents and guardians that social media is the most common medium used by sexual predators for these types of activities. The Placerville Police Department will use all resources available to protect those in our community.

Bowen was booked for:

288.2 (a)(2) PC, sending or showing harmful material to seduce a minor,
288.3 (a) PC, contacting a minor for sexual purposes
647.6 (a) (1) PC, annoying or molesting a child under 18.

Total bail amount: \$125,000.00

Additional charges may be forthcoming

This is an active investigation and anyone with information is asked to call the Placerville Police Department Crime Reduction Team Detectives at (530) 642-5210.

**** Due to California Penal Code 13665 California Law Enforcement is no longer allowed to share booking photographs for certain non-violent/violent crimes. ****