News Release

For Immediate Release
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Thornton Man Arrested for Sex Assault on Child

Pueblo, CO: A 29-year-old Thornton man wanted on a Pueblo County warrant for several felony charges related to a child sex assault case was arrested today in Denver by the U.S. Marshal's Service with assistance from Pueblo County Sheriff's detectives.

Austin Halderman was taken into custody without incident on a warrant for sexual assault on a child pattern, sexual exploitation of a child and aggravated incest. Pueblo County Sheriff's detectives transported Halderman back to Pueblo County, where he has been booked into the Pueblo County Jail.

Pueblo County Sheriff's detectives, PCSO Internet Crimes Against Children detectives, and a Sheriff's deputy assigned as a School Resource Officer (SRO) began an investigation in August of Halderman when the SRO working in a District 70 elementary school received a tip of a possible sexual assault on a child. During the investigation, detectives learned that Halderman had been having inappropriate relations with a child for at least three years. ICAC detectives processed evidence that contained child sexual abuse material.

After a thorough investigation, PCSO detectives obtained an arrest warrant and enlisted the assistance of the U.S. Marshals to help locate Halderman, who lives in Thornton.

"I would like to commend the deputies and detectives who work on these very sensitive cases involving child victims," said Pueblo County Sheriff David J. Lucero. "Through the dedicated and thorough investigative work, they were able to obtain an arrest warrant and quickly get the suspect into custody."

"I also want to thank our partners with the U.S. Marshals Service for their collaboration and assistance with this arrest," Lucero said.

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