

STATE OF MARYLAND

*

IN THE

v.

*

CIRCUIT COURT FOR

JASON M. DYOTT,

*

TALBOT COUNTY

Defendant.

*

CASE NO.: C-20-CR-24-000041

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CRIMINAL INFORMATION

The State Prosecutor for the State of Maryland informs and charges the Defendant, JASON M. DYOTT, with having committed the following offenses:

I. INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

At all times relevant to this Information:

1. JASON MICHAEL DYOTT (“DYOTT”), born August 1986, served as a sworn law enforcement officer with the Easton Police Department (the “EPD”) since approximately June 2008.
2. DYOTT held the rank of Sergeant with EPD beginning in or around July 2020.
3. While serving as a sworn law enforcement officer with EPD, DYOTT held various roles, including but not limited to, serving on the Policy Review Committee, and serving on the Hiring Committee.
4. As a sworn law enforcement officer with EPD, DYOTT was issued a departmental cellular telephone, beginning in or around August 2017. When he was first issued his departmental cellular telephone, DYOTT signed an agreement, which included the following language: “These smartphones are not intended to replace any personal device. Their primary use is intended for job performance.” In addition, under “Requirements”, the agreement stated that cellular telephone “Must be used for job-related performances.”

5. DYOTT frequently utilized his departmental cellular telephone to communicate with women in a flirtatious and/or sexually explicit manner and to coordinate sexual encounters.

6. DYOTT also communicated with his sexual and/or romantic partners via the Snapchat application. Snapchat, owned by Snap, Inc., uses third-party data storage servers that are located outside of the State of Maryland. Snapchat users can send messages, photos, and videos to other users, and once the message, photo, or video is viewed by both parties, the exchange will erase.

7. Several of the people with whom DYOTT communicated in a sexual manner on his departmental cellular telephone and via the Snapchat application were teenagers and students at local high schools in Talbot County, Maryland.

II. TEENAGE VICTIM # 1

8. Paragraphs 1 through 7 of this Information are incorporated as though fully set forth herein.

9. In or about November 2022, DYOTT began communicating with TEENAGE VICTIM # 1, a Talbot County High School student, via the Snapchat application.

10. Between early November 2022 and in or around February 2023, DYOTT leveraged his position as a police officer in order to engage in a sexual relationship with TEENAGE VICTIM #

1. During this time, DYOTT sent multiple photographs to TEENAGE VICTIM # 1 via the Snapchat application, which contained sexually provocative language and depicted him in his EPD uniform. One photograph DYOTT sent to TEENAGE VICTIM # 1 depicted DYOTT wearing his EPD uniform, with the caption, "Come get daddy." Another photograph DYOTT sent to TEENAGE VICTIM # 1 depicted DYOTT in his EPD uniform, with the caption, "I want you bad today."

11. In or about December 2022, DYOTT shared a photograph with TEENAGE VICTIM # 1, which depicted his erect penis.

12. From approximately early November 2022 through in or around February 2023, DYOTT solicited from TEENAGE VICTIM # 1 numerous sexually explicit images.

13. On or about November 9, 2022, TEENAGE VICTIM # 1 sent DYOTT, via Snapchat, an explicit image of herself, taken when TEENAGE VICTIM # 1 was 16 years old. On or about November 9, 2022, DYOTT used his personal cellular telephone to take a photograph of the image of TEENAGE VICTIM # 1 from the Snapchat application on his other cellular telephone.

14. Between November 2022 and approximately February 2023, DYOTT engaged in sexual intercourse with TEENAGE VICTIM # 1 on two occasions.

15. On November 13, 2022, DYOTT was on duty as a sworn law enforcement officer with the EPD beginning at approximately 7:00 p.m.

16. In the evening hours of November 13, 2022, while on duty and in uniform, DYOTT met with TEENAGE VICTIM # 1 in his EPD departmental vehicle in the parking lot of Target in Easton, Maryland and DYOTT and TEENAGE VICTIM # 1 made-out with one another.

17. On or about February 21, 2022, DYOTT became aware of an investigation being conducted by the Talbot County Sheriffs Office, pertaining to his sexual contact with one or more high school students.

18. On or about February 28, 2022, DYOTT's personal cellular telephone and departmental cellular telephone were seized and later searched pursuant to valid search warrants. Execution of the search warrants revealed that DYOTT conducted the following internet searches on his personal cellular telephone, after learning about the investigation:

- 2/21/23 11:15:21 legal consent sex age in md - Google search
- 2/21/23 11:15:22 legal consent sex age in md
- 2/21/23 11:18:51 Maryland Statutory Rape Lawyer |MD Romeo and Juliet Laws
- 2/22/23 Maryland Child Pornography Penalties

- 2/23/23 Explicit pics sent law in md - Google search
- 2/23/23 Teen sexting Laws in MD | Criminal Defense lawyer.com
- 2/23/23 Salisbury Sex Offense Attorney's | Experienced Defense Attorney's

COUNT ONE
(Misconduct in Office)

19. On or before November 13, 2022, at Talbot County, Maryland, JASON DYOTT, in violation and perversion of his duties as a sworn law enforcement officer, did corruptly commit misconduct in office by knowingly, willfully, and intentionally acting in his official capacity as a law enforcement officer and meeting with TEENAGE VICTIM # 1 in his police department issued vehicle, while wearing his police uniform, and engaging in kissing, while on duty and in the course of his official duties, in violation of the Common Law of Maryland and against the peace, government, and dignity of the State.

Common Law
CJIS Code 2-0645
Penalty: Anything not cruel and unusual

III. TEENAGE VICTIM # 2

20. TEENAGE VICTIM # 2 was a student who graduated from a Talbot County High School in 2022.

21. In or around November 2022, DYOTT began communicating with TEENAGE VICTIM # 2 on Snapchat and via his departmental cellular telephone.

22. In or around November 2022, DYOTT sent TEENAGE VICTIM # 2 photographs of himself posed in his EPD police uniform on Snapchat.

23. On Friday, November 11, 2022, DYOTT was on duty as a sworn law enforcement officer with EPD from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

24. On or about Friday, November 11 2022, DYOTT was assigned to patrol the Waterfowl Festival in Easton, Maryland. Held annually each November, the Waterfowl festival is a three-day festival celebrating local Eastern Shore wildlife, art, heritage, and food. The 2022 Waterfowl festival was held Friday, November 11, 2022 through Sunday, November 13, 2022, from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

24. While working and on duty on November 11, 2022, DYOTT sent TEENAGE VICTIM # 2 text messages in order to coordinate picking TEENAGE VICTIM # 2 up from her friend's residence. In the evening hours, DYOTT picked up TEENAGE VICTIM # 2 in his patrol vehicle and engaged in sexual intercourse with TEENAGE VICTIM # 2 inside of his patrol vehicle.

COUNT TWO
(Misconduct in Office)

25. On or about November 11, 2022, at Talbot County, Maryland, JASON DYOTT, in violation and perversion of his duties as a sworn law enforcement officer, did corruptly commit misconduct in office by knowingly, willfully, and intentionally acting in his official capacity as a law enforcement officer and meeting with TEENAGE VICTIM # 2, in his police department issued vehicle, and engaging in sexual intercourse in his patrol vehicle, in violation of the Common Law of Maryland and against the peace, government, and dignity of the State.

Common Law
CJIS Code 2-0645
Penalty: Anything not cruel and unusual

Respectfully Submitted,
Charlton T. Howard, III

Maryland State Prosecutor

By:

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REQUEST FOR SUMMONS

PLEASE ISSUE a criminal summons in this case for the Defendant, JASON DYOTT, to be issued to counsel for JASON DYOTT:

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/s/ Mary W Setzer,
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