

## Youth Center employee sentenced for sexually abusing a minor

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U.S. District Judge J. Frederick Motz sentenced Anthony Dennis Williams II, age 28, of Severn, Maryland, a former employee at the Fort Meade Youth Center, to eight years in prison, followed by three years of supervised release, for abusive sexual contact, and sexually abusing a minor.

The sentence was announced by United States Attorney for the District of Maryland Rod J. Rosenstein; Special Agent in Charge Stephen E. Vogt of the Federal Bureau of Investigation; and Frank Robey, Director, U.S. Army Criminal Investigation Command (CID), Major Procurement Fraud Unit.

"Parents must to be relentless about reading children's text messages and checking their social media accounts," said U.S. Attorney Rod J. Rosenstein. "Keep your children's passwords, read all of their incoming and outgoing messages, and take immediate action if they send or receive inappropriate messages."

"We are very pleased with today's sentencing and will continue to do everything in our power to see predators like this brought to justice," said Special Agent Ed Collins with the U.S. Army Criminal Investigation Command. "We will continue to aggressively work shoulder to shoulder with our fellow law enforcement agencies to protect our most valuable and precious resource for the future -- our children."

According to his plea agreement, for about eight years prior to 2013, Williams was a counselor at the Fort Meade Child and Youth Services center. Williams also taught a program at the center called Passport to Manhood (P2M) which was a life course for juvenile males attending CYS. In this program, he went on annual overnight trips with some of the youth members.

During the summer of 2013, CID investigators learned that Williams may have had illegal sexual contact with at least one boy he met at the center. The boy's mother found text messages between her son and Williams referencing sexual acts. When interviewed by officers of the Citrus County, Florida, Sheriff's Office, and later by CID, the boy said he attended the center while in 7th grade and participated in the P2M programs. One day while at the center, Williams asked the boy to go to the attic of the center to get equipment. Once there, Williams asked the boy to take his clothes off. The boy refused. Williams put the boy's hands on Williams' genital area, and Williams then touched the boy's genital area. Williams was about 25 years old, and the boy 12 years old, during this incident. Williams also sent the boy at least one photo of his exposed genital area.

In October 2013, FBI and CID agents interviewed Williams. Williams identified a second boy with whom he had contact at the center. This additional victim was interviewed, and stated that Williams took him to the center's attic and solicited oral sex from him. They had oral sex on one occasion in the attic when the victim was in eighth grade. They also had anal sex on another occasion outside of Ft. Meade, when the victim was about 16 years old.

FBI and CID agents canvassed other patrons of the center and friends of Williams. One individual, who had worked with Williams at the center, advised that in years past her children hung out with Williams, and slept over at Williams' house. The woman's oldest son reported that some years earlier, when he was in elementary school and spent a night at Williams' apartment in Odenton, Maryland, he woke in the middle of the night to what he thought was Williams grabbing him in the genital area. During another sleep-over at Williams' house, the boy said he fell asleep on the floor, and woke up in a bed, and his bottom felt funny.

United States Attorney Rod J. Rosenstein praised the FBI and Army CID for their work in the investigation and thanked the Citrus County, Florida Sheriff's Office for their assistance. Mr. Rosenstein thanked Assistant United States Attorney P. Michael Cunningham, who prosecuted the case.

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