

Commonwealth of Virginia

COUNTY OF FAIRFAX

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STATEMENT FROM FAIRFAX COMMONWEALTH'S ATTORNEY STEVE DESCANO ON INDICTMENT OF FORMER OFFICER JOHN GRIMES FOR ALLEGED SEXUAL MISCONDUCT WITH A MINOR WHO WAS A PUBLIC SAFETY CADET

FAIRFAX COUNTY, VA – Fairfax County Commonwealth's Attorney Steve Descano issued the following statement regarding the indictment of former Fairfax County Police Officer John Grimes for engaging in sexual misconduct with a minor in the Fairfax County Police Public Safety Cadet Program:

"Between the dates of November 12th, 2019 and December 16th, 2019 former Fairfax County Police Officer John Grimes is alleged to have engaged in sexual misconduct with a minor in the Fairfax County Police Public Safety Cadet Program over whom he maintained a supervisory relationship.

Upon reviewing the investigation into this matter, I determined that it was appropriate to charge Mr. Grimes with three counts of custodial indecent liberties and a grand jury agreed. Today I am therefore announcing the indictment of John Grimes on these charges.

Crimes in which young people in our community are taken advantage of by those in positions of authority within the criminal justice system are particularly egregious and threaten our community's confidence in the system. I will therefore always act to hold those responsible for such heinous crimes accountable. I am hopeful that this indictment will serve as a first step toward justice in this case."

A criminal indictment is an accusation. A defendant is presumed innocent unless and until proven guilty.

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