

## **BROOME COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE**

Sheriff Frederick J. Akshar II

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## **BROOME COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE PRESS RELEASE**

## Vestal Man Charged with Soliciting Minor for Sexual Performance

(VESTAL, NY) A Vestal man is facing a felony and other charges for soliciting pornographic images from a 12-year-old girl.

In the early morning hours of Wednesday, April 3, 2024, members of the Broome County Sheriff's Office responded to a 911 report from a 12-year-old victim in the Town of Union. The victim informed investigators that she had been talking and exchanging explicit messages with Steven R. Cook, age 18 of Vestal, NY.

The subsequent investigation showed Cook had been attempting initiate sexual contact with the minor and attempting to solicit pornographic images from her. Throughout the investigation, probable cause was developed and an arrest warrant for Cook was granted.

During the execution of a search warrant at a residence in Vestal, Cook was uncooperative with investigators, but was eventually taken into custody without incident.

Following the investigation, Steven R. Cook was charged with:

- Attempted Use of a Child in a Sexual Performance, a Class D Felony
- Endangering the Welfare of a Child, a Misdemeanor
- Obstruction of Governmental Administration in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Degree, a Class A Misdemeanor

Cook remains in the custody of the Broome County Sheriff's Office awaiting arraignment.

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