



# New Port Richey Police Department

Martin W. Rickus, Chief

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## Press Release

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**From:** Lieutenant Jeffrey Harrington

**Reference:** Arrest of Jason Taylor ( W/M, DOB 03-04-1979)  
Sexual Battery, Domestic Battery by Strangulation, Child Abuse (4 Counts),  
Tampering with a Witness

**Date:** 10-21-2008

**Case #:** 08-24693  
08-24740

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On Tuesday, October 21, 2008 at approximately 7:00AM, members of the New Port Richey Police Department responded to an address on LaSalle Court regarding a domestic disturbance. Upon arrival, Officers learned that the defendant and the victim had been in a verbal dispute that quickly escalated to one of physical violence. According to the victim, the defendant struck her several times and then grabbed the victim around the neck and began to choke her. As the defendant was choking the victim, her six year old child attempted to intervene on behalf of the victim. The defendant responded by knocking the six year old victim to the floor. The defendant then attempted to leave the area with (2) other minor children. During the course of placing the children into a stroller, he knocked the stroller over subsequently causing the (2) two year old occupants to fall to the ground. The victim then attempted to call "911" for assistance. The defendant forcibly took the phone from the victim and destroyed it to prevent a call to the police. The defendant left prior to the arrival of the police.

As the investigation continued, it became apparent that the violence had actually begun in the early morning hours of 10/21/08. During the course of the investigation, New Port Richey Police Detectives discovered evidence that the defendant had rendered the victim unconscious by delivering a yet unknown substance to her without her knowledge. Once unconscious, the defendant committed acts of sexual battery against the victim.

Based on the facts of the case, Officers and Detectives of the New Port Richey Police Department began to actively seek out the defendant. At approximately 7:07PM, the defendant was located and arrested. During the course of the post arrest interview, the defendant admitted to committing the acts he was charged with in the manner described by the victim. The defendant was arrested and transported to the central jail in Land O' Lakes. He is being held without bond.