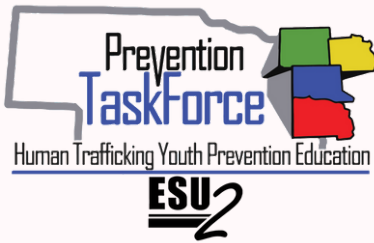


PREVENTION TASKFORCE NEWSLETTER

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TRAFFICKING 101

What is Financial Sextortion?

Financial sextortion occurs when a predator impersonates someone online to coerce an individual into creating and sharing sexually explicit photos or videos. The perpetrator then demands payment or threatens to distribute the content to the victim's family and friends. This is a serious crime. Parents, educators, caregivers, and young people should be aware of the risks and learn how to stay safe online.

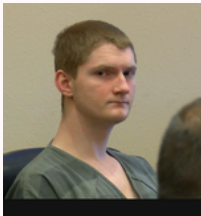
National Human Trafficking Hotline: 1-888-373-7888

Nebraska Trafficking Hotline (Law Enforcement): 1-833-PLS-LOOK (1-833-757-5665)



CONVICTED CASES

On Wednesday, February 12, 2025, Cody Holum, 18, of Doniphan, NE, was sentenced to 80 to 160 years in prison for five felonies in Grand Island, NE. Holum pleaded no contest to two counts of first-degree sexual assault of a minor, two counts of first-degree sexual assault, and one count of human trafficking. He was sentenced to 20 to 40 years for each charge, with the sexual assault sentences served consecutively and the human trafficking sentence concurrently. The crimes, which occurred between April 2019 and October 2023, involved blackmailing 13 individuals with explicit photos.



<https://www.ksnlocal4.com/2025/02/12/doniphan-teen-gets-long-prison-sentence-sextortion-case/>

DID YOU KNOW...

Today's children have near-constant access to phones and devices, making online socializing a normal part of growing up. Unfortunately, this digital world has led to issues like sextortion and Child Sexual Abuse Material (CSAM). Sextortion involves perpetrators coercing individuals, often minors, to produce explicit content through threats of exposure. This can result in the creation of CSAM, as explicit images of child abuse are created and shared. Both crimes exploit digital platforms, highlighting the urgent need for better protections and stricter regulations on these platforms.

<https://www.thorn.org/issue/>

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