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CALDWELL POLICE DEPARTMENT PRESS RELEASE

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Early this morning, before 5 a.m., Caldwell officers responded to a residence to investigate a report that a 16-year-old victim had been sexually assaulted by a known perpetrator. CPD patrol officers conducted a preliminary investigation with the assistance from detectives, who were called in to help.

During the follow-up investigation, the suspect was identified as 27-year-old Philip Rodriguez, a male resident of New Jersey. Caldwell Detectives discovered a lead on the location of the suspect which brought police to Boise. Officers from the Boise Police Department and Caldwell Police Department conducted an arrest operation to apprehend Rodriguez for the sexual assault he allegedly committed. This afternoon Rodriguez was charged with sexual battery on a minor child 16 to 17 years of age.

CPD would like to thank BPD for their sustained partnership and collaborative efforts to bring offenders to justice and keeping the Treasure Valley safe for all.

Chief Ingram made the following comments surrounding the assault and the subsequent apprehension of the suspect:

"Last week was National Crime Victims' Rights Week and we raised awareness for the voiceless. We brought hope for the hopeless and made a very bold statement that 'enough is enough!' For every predator, rapist, molester and pedophile who preys on the vulnerable...we will find you and bring you to justice. I would like to commend our victim who I consider a survivor! She trusted the Caldwell Police Department to be her beacon of light and ray of hope so we could do our part to keep her and our community safe," said Rex Ingram, Caldwell Chief of Police.

All individuals are presumed innocent until proven guilty beyond a reasonable doubt in a court of law.