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**NEWS RELEASE**



**Date:** 06/12/09

**Released By:** Colonel Steve Burns

**NR #:** 09-126

**SEXUAL BATTERY ON A CHILD**

Case# 08-81482

The Sarasota County Sheriff's Office, Investigative Bureau, Child Protective Services Unit investigated a complaint of a five year old victim stating he was sexually abused while at Sandy's Family Childcare, a private residential childcare facility located in the 4000 block of Vana Drive, Sarasota. As a result of the investigation, Mark Dungan-Carpenter (white male DOB 2/12/88) was arrested by warrant today for Sexual Battery on a Child Under the Age of 12. Dungan-Carpenter is alleged to have committed the offense in October of 2008.

The Sheriff's Office is working in conjunction with the Department of Children and Families (DCF). DCF is conducting the administrative investigation regarding the operation of the childcare business. Dungan-Carpenter is the biological grandson and adopted son of the business owner, Sandra Dugan-Carpenter. Mark Dungan-Carpenter lives at the daycare residence and although he is not officially listed as an employee of the business, Sandra Dungan-Carpenter did periodically pay him to watch the children.

The Sheriff's Office will continue the investigation in cooperation with DCF to identify any other victims. Anyone with information related to the investigation is encouraged to contact Det. Kimberly Northfield, (941) 861-4916, or leave an anonymous tip with Crime Stoppers by calling 941-366-TIPS (8477), or online at [www.sarasotacrimestoppers.com](http://www.sarasotacrimestoppers.com) or via text message by texting TIP109 plus a message to CRIMES (274637).