

Man targeted children online using Facebook

By Summer Crosby/St. Maries Gazette Record

A local man has been charged with three counts of using the Internet to entice a child, all felonies.

Andrew L. Verrinder, 27, of St. Maries, allegedly had contact with three separate minors via Facebook and was soliciting them to participate in sexual acts. Two of the victims were 15 and one was 13.

Doug Payne, prosecuting attorney, said the three victims live in Benewah County. The first incident happened in December 2011, and the other two happened in between January and September of this year.

Mr. Payne said Deputy Mike Richardson started to investigate in October because he heard about it from a relative of one of the victims. Mr. Payne declined to provide further details on the case.

Verrinder was released from Benewah County Jail Oct. 10 on \$5,000 bail. He is set to appear in court at 1:30 p.m. Oct. 29 for a preliminary hearing in the case.