

ORIGINAL
OMAHA POLICE DIVISION

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R.B. No.:
50001-A

Offense: INFO. REPORT/CHILD PORN.	<input type="checkbox"/> Victim	<input type="checkbox"/> Suspect	Address:
Day/Date/Time: Original Report: Thursday 05 May 1988 1930	Day/Date/Time: This Report: Monday 09 May 1988 2200		

SYNOPSIS:

This report details Reporting Officers interview with Melinda HARRIS, in the presence of her mother Connie PANTOHA, concerning suspicions that they have of a commercial photographer by the name of Rusty NELSON.

PERSONS AND PLACES MENTIONED IN REPORT:

PARTY:

HARRIS MELINDA
Address: 1316 So. 24th St. Omaha, Ne.
Phone: 345-1375
White Female, 17 years old
DOB: 08 September 1970

PARTIES MOTHER:

PANTOJA CONNIE
Address: 1316 So. 24th St. Omaha, Ne.
Phone: 345-1375

PARTY:

NELSON RUSTY
Address: 3000 Farnam St., #3B Twin Towers Omaha, Ne.
Phone: 221-6864
White Male, approximately 25 years old, 5'9", 140lbs. with dish water blond hair and mustache. Possibly homosexual.

PARTY:

SAPP GREG
Employed by: Nancy Bounds Modeling Agency.
Other identifiers unknown

PARTY:

LENIGAN TRACY
International School of Modeling
Address: 8602 Cass St. Omaha, Ne.
Phone: 399-8787

OMAHA POLICE OFFICERS:

Reporting Officer IRL R. CARMEAN, #831.

DETAILS:

Report Typed By: D.L.W. 11 May 1988 0015	Date: 0015	Time:	Signature Reporting Officer/Serial No.: OFFICER IRL R. CARMEAN, #831
Approved By: (Commanding Officer/Serial No.)			Signature Reporting Officer/Serial No.:

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On this date Reporting Officer CARMEAN, #831 received a follow-up assignment to contact a Connie PANTOJA and to interview her and her seventeen year old daughter Melinda HARRIS concerning questionable activities of a commercial photographer by the name of Rusty NELSON. Both persons suspect NELSON of possibly being involved in nude photography of juveniles.

In meeting with PANTOJA and HARRIS, HARRIS told Reporting Officer that she met the photographer Rusty NELSON while she was working part-time at the Shopko Store in the area of 84th street on Saturday, 30 April 1988. HARRIS recalled having waited on NELSON at that time who was in the company of a retarded elderly white female at the time NELSON stated to HARRIS that he was doing some photographic work for the Easter Seals Campaign. That, according to HARRIS, was the extent of her direct conversation with NELSON at that time. Later, HARRIS found out from a co-worker named Theresa (last name unknown) that NELSON had directed Theresa to give a calling card to Melinda HARRIS. The card had printed on it Rusty NELSON the Camera Man, Creative Photography uniquely designed for your needs with a telephone number of 221-6864.

On Monday, 02 May 1988, Melinda HARRIS stated that she telephoned NELSON. She got a recording saying that "this is cameraman" and directed the caller to leave a name and number. Melinda HARRIS stated that NELSON called back approximately a half a minute later and indicated that he was a commercial photographer doing an European portfolio using red heads. HARRIS is red head. NELSON told HARRIS the photography involved wearing of swimsuits and lengerie. During the conversation, NELSON asked Melinda HARRIS her age and she responded that she was 17. NELSON did not indicate this to be an obstacle and attempted to arrange an appointment with Melinda HARRIS to take some photographs. Melinda HARRIS told NELSON that she was interested and set up an appointment for Wednesday, 04 May 1988. Melinda HARRIS stated that she later called NELSON back to ask if it was permissable for her to bring her mother along. NELSON stated that this would be alright.

According to HARRIS, she and her mother showed up at what they thought to be NELSON'S apartment in the Twin Towers, 3000 Farnam, #3B on the appointed date and time. HARRIS and her mother described the apartment as being partially furnished with little furniture and no television set. The living room looked more like a photographic studio than an apartment. HARRIS Indicated there were several studio lights on in the apartment.

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Prior to any photographs being taken, HARRIS' mother Connie PANTOJA signed both a model release for Rusty NELSON' photographic studio's as well as a minor release giving permission for NELSON to take photographs of Melinda. Copies of these were provided for Reporting Officer. The photographic session took approximately five hours. NELSON took several photographs of HARRIS in various types of clothing, although no swimsuits or lengerie were worn. Melinda stated that NELSON repeatedly made references to HARRIS in her birthday suit and making her breast look bigger. NELSON never specifically asked HARRIS to pose nude or semi-nude but did try to get her to show as much skin as possible and also try to make HARRIS show as much cleavage as possible. Repeatedly, NELSON tried to persuade HARRIS to model in lengerie as well as a form of clothing known as "teddies." HARRIS Indicated she refused to do this.

During the course of the photographic session, HARRIS' mother Connie PANTOJA looked at several photographs which were scattered about the apartment and apparently taken by NELSON. Connie PANTOJA stated that she observed several photographs of nude females ranging in age in her estimation from 20 years old to as young as possibly twelve. Several of the females in the photographs showed frontal nudity.

In addition to the studio, HARRIS stated that NELSON took photographs of her in a park across the street near 30th & Farnam. At one point, HARRIS and PANTOJA stated that they observed NELSON take some clothing for modeling out of a aqua colored van which they stated was quite "beat up." They did not notice any license plates on the vehicle, but believed it to be owned by NELSON.

During Reporting Officers conversation with HARRIS and PANTOJA, they both indicated that NELSON was an extremely likeable individual although Melinda HARRIS Indicated that she suspected NELSON to be a homosexual. HARRIS identified NELSON as being a white male approximately 25 years old, 5'9", 140 pounds with dish water blond hair and a small blond mustache. He was casually dressed and appeared quite a feminine. During there conversation, HARRIS stated that NELSON said that he does work at Max which is a gay bar located in Downtown Omaha and he further stated that he frequents gay bars. HARRIS stated that NELSON continually offered various foods and drink to both HARRIS and her mother. NELSON placed a very large bowl of strawberries on a table offering them to Melinda and her mother. They were also offered to drink some champagne. During the conversation, NELSON stated that he was self-employed but made a couple of references to "the boss" keeping the place well stocked and

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that the boss let him stay there rent free. It is unknown who the boss is.

At the end of the photographic session, HARRIS stated that NELSON told her mother that she should not accompany Melinda to the next session because it was his opinion that Connie PANTOJA made Melinda nervous.

The session was ended as stated earlier after approximately five hours with plans made to schedule a future date. NELSON told HARRIS that she would be used in several campaigns and projects although money was never discussed at any time.

Sometime after the session, Connie PANTOJA stated that she became quite suspicious of NELSON and his motives. She made several inquiries around town, one to the Nancy Bounds Agency where she spoke to an individual by the name of Greg SAPP. SAPP called NELSON a "pervert" and directed PANTOJA not to let her daughter be photographed by him. PANTOJA also stated she spoke to a Tracy LENIGAN at the International School of Modeling who had made some inquiries on her own and stated that NELSON was a good photographer who had done some work in Mexico and California. She stated that she was a former student at Metro Community College and was from New Grove, Nebraska. Information was also received that NELSON had worked at a photographic studio in the area of 138th & Millard streets. LENIGAN had also indicated to HARRIS and her mother that he had previously done some photography for a studio in the Old Market.

HARRIS and her mother could provide no further information at this time. The interview was ended but instructions were give to HARRIS and PANTOJA to contact the robbery sexual assault unit before any subsequent appointments were made with NELSON and should NELSON contact them.

END OF REPORT.

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