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**NEWS RELEASE
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**Commonwealth v. Brian James Talbot
Max Sentence of Two Life Terms plus 20 Years for Sexual Abuse of Young Child**

Virginia Beach, Va. – Colin D. Stolle, Commonwealth's Attorney for the city of Virginia Beach, announced today that Brian James Talbot, age 55, was sentenced on charges of Rape – Victim Under Age 13, Object Sexual Penetration- Victim Under Age 13, and Aggravated Sexual Battery – Victim Under Age 13. A jury found him guilty of these charges after a week-long jury trial in December 2022. Circuit Court Judge James C. Lewis, who presided over the trial, sentenced Talbot to two (2) terms of life in prison plus twenty (20) years. This is the maximum sentence for these crimes. It is well over the adjusted high-end of the Virginia State Sentencing Guidelines recommendation which called for a maximum punishment of 53 years.

The Commonwealth's evidence proved that in July 2007 Talbot came to Virginia Beach to celebrate the birthday of an elderly family member. The victim also visited Virginia Beach for this celebration. While at the Virginia Beach oceanfront, Talbot brought the victim out in the water where the victim could not touch the ocean floor. There he sexually molested the victim. The next day, he took the victim to a bedroom, held her down, and raped her.

The victim's parents eventually found messages on the victim's phone regarding the abuse and reported the crimes to police.

Talbot also has a conviction for raping another child previously.

Assistant Commonwealth's Attorneys C. Andrew Rice and Megan M. Lang prosecuted this case. Please contact Macie Allen if additional information is desired.

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