

Timeline of Carlos Bell investigation

Oct. 17, 2014 — Carlos Bell is hired as a temporary instructional assistant (IA) assigned to J.P. Ryon Elementary School. Before Bell is hired — as with all potential Charles County Public Schools employees — his fingerprints are submitted to the Federal Bureau of Investigations Criminal Justice Information Services. No criminal history is returned from the state or FBI. A search of the Maryland Sex Offender Registry returns no results on Bell.

March 16, 2015 — Bell is hired as an instructional assistant and assigned to Benjamin Stoddert Middle School as a classroom IA.

2015-16 school year — Bell is the indoor track coach for Maurice J. McDonough High School's team.

Nov. 2016 — Bell is hired as the indoor track coach at La Plata High School.

Dec. 22, 2016 — The Charles County Sheriff's Office Special Victims Unit notified CCPS that Bell is under investigation after a La Plata parent contacted the sheriff's office about inappropriate electronic messages Bell sent to a student on the track team.

- Bell is placed on administrative leave while an investigation starts. Human resources notifies Bell he was not allowed on school property, or have any contact with students or student-athletes while he is under investigation.
- La Plata Principal Douglass Dolan and Richard Pauole, the school's athletic director, talked with track team members.
- Investigators find nothing suspicious on Bell's work computer.
- A search warrant is served on Bell's home where his personal computer and other electronics are recovered and sent to the Maryland State Police Crime Lab.
- On Dec. 28, 2016, a letter is sent to parents of La Plata track team members about the investigation and asks for their cooperation with police.

Jan. 3, 2017 — Bell is assigned to a temporary appointment at the Jesse L. Starkey Administration Building. When he fails to show up for the temporary assignment, he is terminated.

May 16, 2017 — CCPS Superintendent of Schools Kimberly Hill issues a No Trespass order against Bell after hearing reports that he was seen at a CCPS track event on May 15, 2017.

June 2017 — The state police crime lab finds video on electronic devices belonging to Bell linking him to the production of child pornography. Investigators find evidence that Bell abused several middle school-aged boys on school property and at other locations. Bell admits to being HIV positive and police find evidence to corroborate his statement.

June 30, 2017 — Bell is arrested and charged with three counts of the production of child pornography and two counts of second-degree assault. The indictment is sealed. Police continue their investigation and anticipate placing additional charges against Bell.

11 a.m. July 3, 2017 — Bell appears before Charles County Circuit Court Judge Amy J. Bragunier and is denied bond. He remains in jail. A court order is put in place to protect the identification of victims or potential victims. The indictment is unsealed and the charges are made public.

1:53 p.m. July 3, 2017 — A letter to all CCPS parents and staff who have an email on file is sent alerting them to the charges and continuing investigation. Superintendent Kimberly Hill's press conference statement and letter to the parents are placed on the Charles County Public Schools website.

2 p.m. July 3, 2017 — Charles County Public Schools, the Charles County Sheriff's Office and Charles County State's Attorney's Office hold a press conference to notify the community about Bell's arrest and ask the public to provide any information that could aid the investigation. A FBI tip line is set up — 800-CALL-FBI (800-225-5324) — to gather additional information about Bell.

July 5, 2017 — Stoddert sets staff and parent information nights. The parent nights are for parents of sixth-, seventh- and eighth-grade students who attend Stoddert and for parents of Stoddert students who were promoted to high school in 2017.

- Staff will meet July 27, and parent nights will be July 28 and Aug. 16.
- Principal Kenneth Schroeck sends a letter to parents who have an email with the school system advising them of the upcoming events. Charles County government and the sheriff's office release additional information regarding Bell's job history and volunteer positions he held in Charles County.

July 6, 2017 — An Investigation Update website page

goes live on ccboe.com. The page includes information from the Charles County Department of Health, CCPS Department of Student Services and the Charles County Sheriff's Office.

- Dr. Hill sends out a second letter to staff and parents updating them on the continuing investigation.

Oct. 4, 2017 — Bell is scheduled to appear in court.

Outside of CCPS

Fall 2015 — Bell works for AlphaBest, a Charles County Government contractor, which provides before and after school care. Bell worked at AlphaBest at J.P. Ryon and William B. Wade elementary schools.

May-June 2016 — Bell is a volunteer assistant track coach for a Waldorf community track team, the Comets. The athletes were 15 to 18 years old and practiced at Henry E. Lackey High School.

Information provided by the Charles County government and Charles County Sheriff's Office

Additional resources

Investigation update

- Go to www.ccboe.com/investigationupdate

Statement from Superintendent Kimberly Hill

- <http://www.ccboe.com/PDF/superintendent/Dr.KimberlyHillStatement07032017.pdf>

Press releases

- [http://www.ccboe.com/pr/stoddert-sets-parent-in-](http://www.ccboe.com/pr/stoddert-sets-parent-in-formation-nights/)

[formation-nights/](http://www.ccboe.com/pr/stoddert-sets-parent-in-formation-nights/)

- <http://www.ccboe.com/pr/former-ccps-employee-charged-under-investigation-by-sheriffs-office/>

Letters

- <http://www.ccboe.com/PDF/superintendent/Letter-ToStaffParents07032017.pdf>