



STEPHEN B. RUSSELL
Office of the State Attorney
20th Judicial Circuit

Serving Charlotte, Collier, Glades, Hendry and Lee

For Immediate Release

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The State Attorney's Office announced today that McKenzie Barker and Taylor Wynn, who posted a Facebook account mocking a fellow student, have been referred to a Neighborhood Accountability Board. The Neighborhood Accountability Board, or NAB for short, is a pre-filing restorative justice diversion program that places emphasis on giving the victim and other members of the community the opportunity to confront the offenders and to make them aware of the harm that they have caused. It also makes the offenders take responsibility for their actions, and to face up to the results of their acts. NAB can also impose sanctions. These can include community service, curfews, restrictions on computer access including use of social networking sites, and other sanctions as deemed appropriate.

"The decision to place these children in the NAB program was reached after reviewing all of the evidence and circumstances involved", said Assistant State Attorney Larry Justham. "Particularly important in this determination was the wishes of the victim's father, who agreed that the NAB was the appropriate resolution." Neither Barker or Wynn have any criminal history.

The fake Facebook account was originally published in April of 2010. The girls were not arrested until January 2011. The victim and her father have indicated that she has moved on since the posting, and would like to put this behind her.

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