



July 29, 2009

### **AURORA MAN SENTENCED ON CHILD PORNOGRAPHY CONVICTION**

Chicago – Attorney General Lisa Madigan announced that a DuPage County judge Tuesday sentenced an Aurora man to three years in the Illinois Department of Corrections (IDOC). The sentencing follows the guilty plea last month of Steven V. Pounders, 50, on the charge of attempt to disseminate child pornography, a Class 2 felony.

Circuit Court Judge George Bakalis also sentenced Pounders to two years of mandatory supervised release following his IDOC term and required that he submit a DNA sample and register as a sex offender. Attorney General Madigan's office co-prosecuted the case with the DuPage County State's Attorney's Office.

"This conviction demonstrates the success of collaborative efforts through which my office teams with police and prosecutors across Illinois to protect children from sexual exploitation," Madigan said.

The charges against Pounders were the result of a collaborative effort between Madigan's High Tech Crimes Bureau and the Aurora Police. The Attorney General's High Tech Crime's Bureau identified that Pounders was offering child pornography over the Internet and turned over the information to the Aurora Police Department, a member of Madigan's Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force (ICAC). A November 2007 search of Pounders residence resulted in the discovery of child pornography that led to his arrest and conviction.

Pounders remains in the DuPage County Jail pending his transfer to IDOC. Judge Bakalis ordered that he forfeit to Aurora Police all of the personal computer items that contained child pornography.

Assistant Attorney General David Haslett, Chief of Madigan's High Tech Crimes Bureau, co-prosecuted the case with DuPage County Assistant State's Attorney Ken Tatarelis.

Through a grant from the Department of Justice, Attorney General Madigan operates the Internet Crimes Against Children (ICAC) task force, which has 106 affiliated agencies throughout Illinois. Illinois ICAC is one of 61 similar organizations nationwide designed to investigate child exploitation crimes and provide Internet safety education and training programs. Through June 2009, the Illinois ICAC task force provided Internet safety training and education to more than 92,000 parents and students and 7,580 law enforcement officers and prosecutors. ICAC also responded to 1,688 cyber tips received from the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children.

For more information, click on: <http://www.illinoisattorneygeneral.gov/children/safetytips.html>

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