



September 30, 2010

**MADIGAN'S AGGRESSIVE CRACKDOWN ON CHILD PORNOGRAPHERS
CONTINUES WITH ARREST OF LAKE COUNTY MAN**

Chicago — Attorney General Lisa Madigan announced the arrest of a Lake County man today in her continuing crackdown that is targeting the most active participants in downloading and trading child pornography online.

The arrest of Daniel Alfredo Sanchez, of Round Lake Beach, on child pornography charges brings to seven the number of arrests in the operation that Madigan first announced in Carbondale late last month. It is the second arrest made of a suspected child pornographer in Lake County this month.

"Child pornography exploits innocent children," Madigan said. "Working with local law enforcement, we will continue to move swiftly throughout the state to identify and arrest those who prey on children through their despicable acts."

Round Lake Beach Police and Lake County Sheriff's officers assisted investigators from Madigan's office in the arrest of Sanchez at his residence this morning. He is charged with aggravated child pornography, a Class 2 felony punishable by three to seven years in the Illinois Department of Corrections (IDOC) and child pornography, a Class 3 felony punishable by two to five years in the IDOC. Bail for Sanchez will be set today during a bond hearing in Lake County Circuit Court.

Madigan said cooperation among the Attorney General's office, local law enforcement and State's Attorneys' offices are essential ingredients to the ongoing effort to crack down on child pornographers in Illinois.

"I repeat what I said after the arrest of another suspect in Lake County last week. The child pornography industry poses a great danger to our children, and we will continue to work with Attorney General Madigan to bring to justice those who possess and distribute videos and who have helped finance the abuse and exploitation of hundreds of children," State's Attorney Michael Waller said.

"The Round Lake Beach Police Department greatly appreciates the assistance provided by the Attorney General's office in these cases. It would be difficult for us to conduct these types of investigations without that assistance," said Police Chief Gary Bitler. "Today's arrest was the result of the ongoing cooperation between our agencies and was a job well done."

"Child pornography destroys the lives of its victims," said Attorney General Madigan. "These children are victimized again and again every time these horrid images are viewed, downloaded and traded on the Internet."

Last month, Attorney General Madigan announced a new initiative to find and arrest the worst child pornographers in Illinois using the unique identifier that each computer is assigned when it accesses the Internet, known as an Internet protocol (IP) address. In the past 30 days, more than 8,000 Illinois IP addresses were seen trading child pornography images and videos.

"Internet predators need to know that the technology they use to victimize our children is the same technology that law enforcement around this state will use to identify them, find them and imprison them," Madigan said.

Studies have shown that users of child pornography are more likely to also be sexual abusers of children. A total of 24,560 sex offenders are listed on the Illinois Sex Offender Registry, of which more than 81 percent committed a crime against a child. The Illinois Sex Offender Registry is located at www.isp.state.il.us.

Along with this initiative to arrest child pornographers, Madigan also works with local and national law enforcement organizations to address Internet exploitation of children and women. Madigan's office, with a grant from the Department of Justice, runs the Illinois

Internet Crimes Against Children (ICAC) task force, which investigates child exploitation crimes and trains law enforcement. Since 2006, Madigan's office has been involved in more than 300 arrests of sexual predators and provided Internet safety training and education to more than 128,000 parents, teachers and students and more than 10,000 law enforcement professionals.

The public is reminded that the defendant is presumed innocent until proven guilty by a court of law.

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