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ATTORNEY GENERAL MADIGAN ANNOUNCES LATEST ARREST IN STATEWIDE CRACKDOWN ON CHILD PORNOGRAPHERS

Kane County Man Arrested on Child Pornography Charges

Chicago — Attorney General Lisa Madigan announced that with today's arrest of a Kane County man, 15 suspects have been charged since her crackdown began in August targeting the most active participants in downloading and trading child pornography on the Internet. Three of the arrests have taken place in Kane County.

Campton Hills Police arrested Eric Humbracht, 37, of Campton Hills. He is charged with one count of aggravated possession of child pornography, a Class 2 felony punishable by three to seven years in the Illinois Department of Corrections, and one count of possession of child pornography, a Class 3 felony punishable by a two- to five-year prison term.

The initial investigation indicated that Humbracht's computer contained more than 220 images of child pornography, including at least 40 images of children under the age of 13. Humbracht is scheduled for a bond hearing on Saturday morning in Kane County Circuit Court.

"The pervasiveness of the Internet has led to an explosion in downloading and trafficking in child pornography. Thousands of innocent children are victimized by this crime," said Attorney General Lisa Madigan. "But child pornographers should know this: Law enforcement has the same tools you do. We can track what you are downloading and disseminating and we will find and arrest you."

Madigan said cooperation between her office, Kane County State's Attorney John A. Barsanti and local law enforcement was essential to this arrest. Such cooperation at all levels is key to the success of the ongoing crack down on child pornographers in Illinois, said Attorney General Madigan.

Campton Hills Police Chief Daniel Hoffman said his department is committed to assisting Madigan in the effort to stop child pornographers.

"I laud the outstanding efforts by the Attorney General's Office in helping communities ferret out offenders who prey on our children," Hoffman said.

In late August, 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. Over the past month more than 6,400 Illinois IP addresses were seen trading child pornography images and videos.

"The people we have arrested so far are charged with serious and vile crimes that victimize some of the most vulnerable in our society, our children," said Madigan. "We know that thousands more are trafficking in child pornography across Illinois. They do so at great risk. They should know we are aggressively and methodically coming for them. There will be more arrests."

Studies have shown that users of child pornography are more likely to also be sexual abusers of children. A total of 24,625 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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