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Press Releases

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MADIGAN: KENDALL COUNTY MAN ARRESTED, CHARGED WITH CHILD PORNOGRAPHY POSSESSION

Chicago — Attorney General Lisa Madigan today said an Oswego man was charged with multiple counts of possessing and planning to disseminate child pornography as part of "Operation Glass House," a statewide initiative to apprehend the most active offenders who download and trade child pornography online.

Homer Wilson Jr., 50, is charged with five counts of possessing child pornography with the intention to disseminate, which are Class X felonies punishable by up to six to 30 years in the Illinois Department of Corrections (IDOC). He was also charged with 10 counts of possessing child pornography videos. The counts are Class 2 felonies and are each punishable by three to seven years in the IDOC. He is being held in the Kendall County Jail with a bond of \$1 million. A date for his preliminary hearing will be set by the court.

"Every time an image of a child being sexually assaulted is shared and viewed, it perpetuates the original crime and further scars these young, innocent victims and their families," Madigan said. "My office will continue to be relentless in tracking down and apprehending offenders who trade these horrific videos."

Madigan's investigators, with the assistance of the Oswego Police Department and the Kendall County State's Attorney's Office, conducted a search of a residence in the 400 block of Dancer Lane and arrested Wilson after evidence of alleged child pornography was discovered. State's Attorney Eric Weis' office will prosecute the case.

"Our office is committed to prosecuting offenders who prey on children to the fullest extent of the law. By working together with the Illinois Attorney General's High Tech Crimes Bureau, we are able to aggressively pursue these offenders and see that justice is done, " said Weis.

"The Oswego Police Department takes these crimes very seriously, and we have spent years actively investigating and pursuing the individuals who abuse our children," said Oswego Police Chief Jeff Burgner. "Our partnership with the Attorney General's office is an important part of our work to hold these individuals accountable."

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

This is the 76th arrest since Madigan launched "Operation Glass House" in August 2010 to investigate the most active child pornography traders in Illinois. In 2010, the first year of the initiative, Madigan's investigations revealed a disturbing trend of offenders trading extremely violent videos of young children being raped. As a result, Madigan's office has focused on apprehending offenders who are seen trading and watching extremely violent videos involving children, including infants and toddlers.

Madigan's office, with a grant from the U.S. Department of Justice, runs the Illinois Internet Crimes Against Children (ICAC) Task Force, which investigates child exploitation crimes and trains law enforcement agencies. Since 2006, Madigan's ICAC task force has been involved in 1,026 arrests of sexual predators. The task force has also provided Internet safety training and education to more than 470,013 parents, teachers and students and more than 19,352 law enforcement professionals.

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