October 13, 2021

ATTORNEY GENERAL RAOUL ANNOUNCES MCHENRY COUNTY MAN SENTENCED FOR CHILD PORNOGRAPHY

Chicago — Attorney General Kwame Raoul today announced a McHenry County man was sentenced to 10 years in prison for possessing child pornography

Scott E. Pollack, 47, of Lake in the Hills, Illinois, was sentenced by McHenry County Circuit Court Judge Robert Willbrandt after pleading guilty to one Class X felony count of dissemination of child pornography. Pollack will also be required to register as a sex offender.

"Sharing and trading these horrific images victimizes children and their families and impacts the entire community," Raoul said. "I appreciate the collaboration between local and state law enforcement agencies that led to this sentence, and I am committed to working with agencies at all levels through the Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force to protect communities from offenders who commit these terrible crimes."

Prosecutors alleged that Pollack possessed child pornography involving a victim under the age of 13, which he uploaded to his Yahoo email account. Pollack was arrested Jan. 10, 2020, after investigators from Raoul's office, the Lake in the Hills Police Department and the Wheeling Police Department executed a search warrant at Pollack's Lake in the Hills home and discovered evidence of child pornography. Pollack was a teacher and former wrestling coach at Holmes Middle School in Wheeling.

The arrest is part of Attorney General Raoul's work to investigate and prosecute child pornographers in Illinois. Raoul's office, with a grant from the U.S. Department of Justice, runs the Illinois Internet Crimes Against Children (ICAC) Task Force that investigates child exploitation crimes and trains law enforcement agencies. The task force receives CyberTips, or online reports of child pornography, from the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children. Over the last several years, CyberTipline reports have steadily increased; in fact, Raoul's office projects that reports to the ICAC during 2021 will increase by 23% over 2020.

In response to increasing reports of online child exploitation, Raoul recently announced a series of ICAC webinars aimed at giving parents, guardians and educators tools to help children and teens foster healthy online interactions. The free webinars, which begin Oct. 7 and take place on the first Thursday of each month, will teach parents and guardians about the social media apps children and teens may be using, how to identify signs that a child may have been a victim of online solicitation, and more. Interested parties should email Mailyn.orr@ilag.gov to register.

Illinois' ICAC Task Force is one of 61 ICAC Task Forces throughout the country and is comprised of a network of more than 225 local, county, state and federal law enforcement agencies, and the task force covers 101 of Illinois' 102 counties. Since 2019, the Attorney General's ICAC Task Force has received more than 13,353 CyberTips and been involved in more than 150 arrests of sexual predators. Since 2006, the Attorney General's ICAC Task Force has been involved in more than 1,780 arrests of sexual predators. The task force also has provided internet safety training and education to more than 953,500 parents, teachers and students and more than 23,100 law enforcement professionals.

Assistant Attorney General Shantikumar Kulkarni handled the case for Raoul's High Tech Crimes Bureau.