



*** For Immediate Release ***

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Spokane County Net Nanny Operation Leads to 9 Arrests

Spokane – Nine dangerous sexual predators that targeted children in Spokane County were removed from the Spokane community thanks to a multi-day operation run by the Homeland Security Investigations, Washington State Patrol (WSP), and several local law enforcement partners and affiliates. Dubbed “Operation Net Nanny,” this was the 12th operation around the state with a mission to proactively target those persons involved in child abuse and child exploitation via the internet. In addition to the identified suspects, four suspects have been recognized as having access to over 10 children at risk of being abused. Supplemental follow-up investigations are currently underway to identify those children and arrange for the appropriate assistance for any abuse they may have been exposed to.

The Net Nanny operations began in August of 2015 by the Washington State Patrol (WSP). Since the original operation, there have been eleven additional operations in Washington State. The WSP Missing and Exploited Children Task Force (MECTF), an Internet Crimes against Children (ICAC) affiliate, spearheads the multi-agency operation that includes partners in federal, state, and local law enforcement.

The “Net Nanny” series, conducted throughout the State of Washington, has now netted a total of **182** arrests and rescued **29** identified child victims throughout the state.

“While the Internet is a powerful tool for our nation, criminals using it to target our communities’ necessitates a collaborative effort by our law enforcement troopers and partners to combat these horrible crimes,” says WSP Chief John R. Batiste. “This operation is protecting our vulnerable children and making communities safer.”

“Our children are our most valuable resources and we need to do everything we can to protect them.” said Spokane County Sheriff Ozzie Knezovich. “It is my hope, that after law enforcement has taken these child sexual predators off our streets, they will be prosecuted to the fullest extent of the law and spend several years in prison.”

“This is an excellent collaboration between multiple jurisdictions in our ongoing effort to protect our most cherished and often, defenseless population; our children,” said Spokane Police Chief Craig Meidl. “Thanks to all the investigators and their tireless efforts to bring these predators to justice.”

Undercover Law enforcement officers communicated on the internet through various websites and mobile phone applications with people interested in having sex with children. The operation generated hundreds of responses. The would-be perpetrators who were arrested over the three day operation traveled to meet with undercover detectives posing as young girls and boys with the intent to engage in sexual activity with children younger than 13 years old.

Primary crimes investigated are:

- RCW 9A.44.073 – Rape of a child in the first degree – attempt
- RCW 9A.44.076 – Rape of a child in the second degree – attempt
- RCW 9.68A.100 – Commercial sexual abuse of a minor
- RCW 9.68A.070 – Possession of depictions of a minor engaged in sexually explicit conduct
- RCW 9.68A.050 – Dealing in depictions of a minor engaged in sexually explicit conduct
- RCW 9.68A.090 – Communication with a minor for immoral purposes
- RCW 69.50.4015 – Involving a person under 18 in unlawful controlled substance transaction
- RCW 69.50.406 – Distribution to persons under age 18

The names of the individuals arrested during the operation are:

- Carroll, Fire F., 30, Spokane
- Dettorre, Kyle J., 30, Spokane Valley
- Harbour, Dustin R., 33, Spokane
- Schober, Pierce M., 43, Spokane
- Kvasnicka, Jeffrey M., 44, Spokane
- Cotton, John E., 49, Spokane
- Calhoun, Wesley M., 26, Spokane Valley
- Raymer, Jeff L., 42, Spokane
- Brogdon, Robert M., 40, Spokane

The collaborative effort involving over 60 dedicated law enforcement officer, agents, and staff led to the success of this operation. Those agencies involved:

- Washington State Patrol Missing and Exploited Children Task Force
- U.S. Homeland Security Investigations
- Southeast Region Internet Crimes Against Children (ICAC) Task Force
- Spokane County Sheriff's Office
- Spokane Police Department
- Spokane Regional Auto Theft Task Force
- Spokane Regional Safe Streets Task Force
- Washington State Attorney General Office
- U.S. Attorney General Office, Eastern District of Washington
- Spokane County Prosecuting Attorney's Office
- Washington State Patrol High Tech Crime Unit
- Washington State Patrol Criminal Investigation Division
- Washington State Patrol Field Operation Bureau – District 4

Anyone with information related to the suspects listed, or information leading to the identity of victims potentially involved in these cases please contact:

- Washington State Patrol, MECTF
 - mectf@wsp.wa.gov
 - Sergeant Dan McDonald at 509-939-8735
- Homeland Security Investigations (HSI), Spokane Office
 - HSI Special Agent Trinity Street at 520-619-0028

MECTF is a state law enforcement agency governed by RCW 13.60.110, and not designated as a 501 (c)(3) charity. Please consult with your tax professional or the Internal Revenue Service to determine if your donation is tax exempt. To donate and support MECTF, please visit: <http://www.wsp.wa.gov/crime/mectf/>

All proceeds go directly to MECTF and are used explicitly in the identification and safe recovery of exploited children, the investigation of those sexually exploiting children, and successful apprehension and prosecution thereof.

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