



NEWS RELEASE

OFFICE OF ATTORNEY GENERAL HENRY McMASTER
STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

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Myrtle Beach Man Arrested in Joint Child Pornography Case

Columbia - Attorney General Henry McMaster announced today that Charles Burns, 25, of 1211 Brighton Avenue, in Myrtle Beach, South Carolina, was arrested on October 7, 2010, by the City of Myrtle Beach Police Department and the Horry County Sheriff's Office on child pornography charges.

The City of Myrtle Beach Police Department and the Horry County Sheriff's Office are members of the Attorney General's Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force. Task Force investigators have received training on the use of special software to conduct undercover investigations related to the sharing of child pornography on peer-to-peer (file sharing) networks.

Burns is charged with twenty-seven (27) counts of Sexual Exploitation of a Minor (§16-15-410), 3rd Degree, a felony offense punishable to ten (10) years imprisonment.

Burns is charged with sharing digital photographs and/or videos over the Internet depicting children engaged in sex acts. Multiple computers and computer-related items were seized for forensic examination. Files containing the pornographic images were found on those computers and media devices.

A booking photo is available through the Horry County Detention Center.

The case will be prosecuted by the Attorney General's Office.

McMaster stressed that all defendants are presumed innocent unless and until they are proven guilty in a court of law.

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