



NEWS RELEASE

OFFICE OF ATTORNEY GENERAL HENRY MCMASTER
STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

For Immediate Release
January 12, 2005

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Charlotte Man First To Be Prosecuted With McMaster's Child Internet Predator Law

Columbia, S.C. – Attorney General Henry McMaster announced today that a Charlotte, North Carolina man would be the first person the office prosecutes for violating the state's new Child Internet Predator Law. The new law, on the books since April 2004, makes it a crime to stalk, lure or entice a child for abduction or assault.

Donald Louis Brink, 32, of 2219 Flint Glenn Lane in Charlotte, North Carolina turned himself in to SLED agents at the Lexington County Sheriff's Office and was arrested on three (3) counts of Criminal Solicitation of a Minor, a felony violation of §16-15-342 of the Code of Laws, and punishable to ten (10) years imprisonment and/or a \$5,000 fine for each count.

According to the arrest warrants, Brink allegedly used the Internet and telephone to solicit sex from what he believed to be an underage victim. In reality, he was communicating directly with SLED agents.

The arrest warrants allege that on at least three (3) occasions, Brink contacted and communicated with an undercover SLED agent posing as a thirteen (13) year old girl, for the purpose of or with the intent of persuading, inducing, enticing, or coercing the child to engage or participate in a sexual activity, or a violent crime (as defined by S.C. Code), or with the intent to perform a sexual activity in the presence of the child, or person reasonably believed to be a child under the age of eighteen (18).

A centerpiece of his administration, McMaster will now prosecute Brink under the law he pushed through the General Assembly with the help of the bill's sponsor, Representative Murrell Smith of Sumter.

This case was developed by the Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force (ICAC), using the S.C. Computer Crimes Center, a partnership of SLED, the Secret Service, and the FBI. ICAC is operated by the Attorney General's Office, and used to prosecute child sexual exploitation, pornography, and now cyber enticement cases.

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

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