



# ***NEWS RELEASE***

OFFICE OF ATTORNEY GENERAL HENRY McMASTER  
STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

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## **Columbia Man Arrested In Internet Predator Sting**

**Columbia** - Attorney General Henry McMaster announced today that Benjamin Paul Green, 27, of 1729 Greys Inn Road in Columbia, was arrested on October 13, 2006, in an undercover Internet sting conducted by the Aiken County Sheriff's Office.

The Aiken County Sheriff's Office is a partner in the Attorney General's Internet Crimes Against Children (ICAC) Task Force.

Green was arrested on one (1) count of Criminal Solicitation of a Minor (§ 16-15-342), a felony offense punishable to ten (10) years imprisonment and one (1) count of Attempted Criminal Sexual Conduct With a Minor (§ 16-3-655(B)), a felony offense punishable to twenty (20) years imprisonment.

Arrest warrants allege that Green began soliciting sex on October 13, 2006, from a person he believed to be a fourteen (14) year old girl. In reality, he was seeking sex from an undercover Aiken County Sheriff's Deputy. Green further arranged to meet the "girl" for sex at a predetermined location in Aiken County. He was arrested upon his arrival at that location approximately three (3) hours later.

At a bond hearing held at the Aiken County Detention Center, Green was assigned a \$50,000 bond.

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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