



NEWS RELEASE

OFFICE OF ATTORNEY GENERAL HENRY McMASTER
STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

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Contact: Mark Plowden
803-734-3670
mplowden@ag.state.sc.us

Greenville County Sheriff Arrests N.C. Man In Internet Predator Sting

Columbia - Attorney General Henry McMaster announced today that Barry Bernard Brueckner, 47, of 742 Lakeview Shores Loop in Mooresville, North Carolina, was arrested on May 4, 2007, in an undercover Internet sting conducted by the Greenville County Sheriff's Office.

The Greenville County Sheriff's Office is a member of the Attorney General's Internet Crimes Against Children (ICAC) Task Force.

Brueckner 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 beginning March 26, 2007, Brueckner solicited sex in online "chats" with a person he believed to be a thirteen (13) year old girl. In reality, he was communicating with an undercover Greenville County Sheriff's Deputy. Brueckner further arranged to meet the "girl" for sex at a predetermined location in Greenville County. He was arrested upon his arrival at that location. A laptop computer was seized in the arrest.

The City of Greenville Police Department, also an ICAC Task Force member, assisted in the arrest.

A bond hearing is scheduled for tonight at the Greenville County Detention Center. A booking photo will be available through the Greenville County Detention Center.

This is the seventy-sixth (76th) arrest since the Internet Predator law was passed in April 2004.

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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