

Trafficking law applied in kid-sex sting

by UPI

KANSAS CITY, Mo. - Federal prosecutors in Kansas City say the indictment of four alleged child-prostitution customers on sex-trafficking charges is the first of its kind.

The defendants indicted this week allegedly responded to an Internet sting in which police offered them sex with clearly under-age girls.

The Kansas City Star said Wednesday until now, the federal sex-trafficking statute had only been used to prosecute pimps and not their customers. U.S. Attorney Matt Whitworth told reporters he expected other jurisdictions to begin applying the law in their areas.

The defendants, who hail from Missouri, Kansas and Mississippi, will face a minimum of 10 years in federal prison if convicted, the Star said.

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