

FBI Task Force Arrests Redmond Teacher in Innocent Images Sting

by Bend Weekly News Sources

FBI Agents and members of the FBI's Innocent Images Task Force arrested Christopher Frederick Smith, age 49, on charges that he used the Internet to entice a minor for sex. The arrest, early Wednesday morning, was without incident at SMITH's home in Eagle Crest, Oregon. The FBI also served a search warrant at the home. SMITH is a teacher at Redmond High School in Redmond, Oregon. The Redmond Police Department and the Deschutes County Sheriff's Office assisted in the investigation.

Over the course of two months, an undercover Innocent Images Task Force Agent held multiple conversations with a person identifying himself with the Yahoo! screen name of "daddyforyoubend". Investigators were able to determine that the IP address used by "daddyforyoubend" is registered to Smith.

Smith will make an initial appearance in U.S. District Court in Portland, most likely at 1:30 p.m. today. Assistant United States Attorney Frank Noonan is prosecuting this case.

Each year, one in five children ages 10-17 receives a sexual solicitation over the Internet. One in 3 children is threatened online by predators or bullies. Of middle school students surveyed, 85% spent at least one hour a week on the Internet. Of those, 60% received messages from strangers, and two-thirds of those who did responded.

The FBI began the Innocent Images National Initiative in 1995 to address the illicit activities of those who were using commercial and private on-line services. Now, eight years later, the Innocent Images program focuses on three areas:

Investigating those who indicate a willingness to travel interstate for the purpose of engaging in sexual activity with a minor

Investigating major producers and/or distributors of child pornography

Identifying child victims and obtaining the proper assistance for them

At any one time, the FBI has more than 2,400 active child sexual exploitation cases open.

Community members may report on-line predators and child pornography by calling the Portland office at (503) 224-4181. Bend Oregon Central Oregon

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