

DEPARTMENT OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

News Release

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TWO MEN ARRESTED ON SEPARATE CHARGES OF ELECTRONIC ENTICEMENT OF A CHILD

HONOLULU – Members of the Hawai`i Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force have arrested two men on separate charges of Electronic Enticement of a Child.

Francisco Amsic, 32, of Waianae is accused of using the Internet to solicit a law enforcement officer whom he believed to be a 14-year-old girl. In online chats, Amsic indicated that he wanted to engage in sexual conduct with the "girl" and arranged to meet her for the purpose of sex. He was arrested when he arrived at the meeting place at the agreed-upon time, and indicted on October 21, 2008. The arrest involved law enforcement agents of the Department of the Attorney General, Honolulu Police Department, and United States Immigration and Customs Enforcement.

Matthew Lewis, 33, of Waipahu is accused of using the Internet to solicit a law enforcement officer whom he believed to be a 14-year-old girl. In online chats, Lewis indicated that he wanted to engage in sexual conduct with the "girl". He arranged to meet her for the purpose of sex, and arrived at the meeting place at the agreed-upon time. Lewis was arrested on October 22, 2008. The arrest involved law enforcement agents of the Department of the Attorney General, Honolulu Police Department, United States Immigration and Customs Enforcement, and Naval Criminal Investigation Service.

Amsic and Lewis are considered innocent unless and until they are found guilty beyond a reasonable doubt by a judge or jury.

Under a new law (Act 80, Session Laws of Hawai`i 2008), courts must impose a mandatory sentence of ten years in prison on Internet predators who commit Electronic Enticement of a Child in the First Degree.

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The Hawai'i Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force has created a Web site at www.hicac.com to help parents and young people recognize the dangers of the Internet and take protective measures. The site contains safety tips and provides information on how to report suspected illegal Internet activity that targets children.

Anyone having information concerning possible Internet crimes against children is encouraged to call the Department of the Attorney General at (808) 586-1240.

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