

DEPARTMENT OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

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DAVID SISOMBATH CHARGED WITH PROMOTING CHILD ABUSE FOR POSSESSING AND DISSEMINATING CHILD PORNOGRAPHY

HONOLULU – Attorney General Doug Chin announced today that a grand jury has charged David Sisombath with six counts of promoting child abuse in the second degree and one count of promoting child abuse in the third degree. The allegations against Mr. Sisombath are that he disseminated child pornography over a peer to peer file sharing network, and possessed over 384 images and videos of child sexual abuse with 44 of the files depicting children under the age of 12 on six separate computers and hard drives.

Attorney General Chin said of the charges: "As our criminal laws recognize, child pornography *is* child abuse. These horrible images can *only* be created by abusing a child. Every time someone views or shares these images, the victim of that abuse is being abused again. Our department will prosecute these offenses to the fullest extent of the law."

The arrest of Mr. Sisombath and the charges filed against him were a result of work done by Hawaii's Internet Crimes Against Children (HICAC). HICAC is part of a cooperative nationwide network of Internet Crimes Against Children task forces that are dedicated to protecting children in the online environment. To learn about how to keep your children safe online, please use the resources available on the HICAC webpage: http://ag.hawaii.gov/hicac/.

Mr. Sisombath is presumed innocent unless and until he is found guilty of the charges beyond a reasonable doubt.

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