

PRESS RELEASE

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Surgeon and registered sex offender among eight arrested in ICAC Operation "Back to School III"

Houston - The Houston Metro Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force (ICAC) conducted a multi-day online undercover initiative with the Harris County Precinct One Constable's Office and Houston Police Department leading the operation, culminating in the arrest of eight individuals, including a surgeon and a registered sex offender.

The goal of this operation was to identify and apprehend adults using the internet and social media to sexually exploit children by soliciting sex and/or sex-related acts. Officers certified in undercover chat used online personas, in various social media apps, posing as minors. This operation involved numerous law enforcement officers and support personnel, who worked tirelessly in late August and early September to effect the arrests.

Each individual arrested is listed on the following pages, along with corresponding information about them and their arrests specifically. Unless otherwise noted the charge for each is an *online solicitation of a minor* charge. The potential punishment for that felony is anything ranging from probation or 2-20 years in prison, if convicted.

You will find their mug shots below, as well as video of the arrests which have been posted to the Precinct 1 YouTube channel.

The Houston Metro Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force, Harris County Precinct One Constable's Office, and the Houston Police Department would like to thank their law enforcement partners who participated in this initiative.

Those agencies include the Harris County Sheriff's Office, Harris County District Attorney's Office, Katy ISD Police Department, League City Police Department, Missouri City Police Department, Humble Police Department, Fort Bend County District Attorney's Office, Texas Department of Public Safety, United States Secret Service, and Cypress Creek Tactical EMS.