



OFFICE OF THE  
ATTORNEY GENERAL OF TEXAS

# Internet Crimes Against Children

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# Overview and Objectives

- ▶ **Internet Crimes**
- ▶ **Child Pornography Laws and Statistics**
- ▶ **Safety Tips and Resources**
- ▶ **Sites To Be Aware Of**



# ICAC Program Mission Statement

- ▶ **The Internet Crimes Against Children (ICAC) Task Force Program helps federal, state and local law enforcement agencies develop an effective response to cyber enticement and child pornography cases. This encompasses forensic and investigative components, training and technical assistance, victim services, and community education.**



# National Center for Missing and Exploited Children-NCMEC

- ▶ **There are 61 ICAC Task Forces three of which are in Texas:**
  - **Austin-TX OAG**
    - **Commander Kimberly Bustos**
      - **[kimberly.bustos@texasattorneygeneral.gov](mailto:kimberly.bustos@texasattorneygeneral.gov)**
  - **Dallas-Dallas PD**
    - **Commander Alfred Diorio**
      - **[alfred.diorio@dpd.ci.dallas.tx.us](mailto:alfred.diorio@dpd.ci.dallas.tx.us)**
  - **Houston-Houston PD**
    - **Commander Richard Hahn**
      - **[rhahn@hmicac.org](mailto:rhahn@hmicac.org)**



# National Center for Missing and Exploited Children-NCMEC

- ▶ **Established in 1998, The Cyber Tipline has received more than 3.3 million reports of suspected child exploitation as of January 2015**
  - **Reports are examined to evaluate content**
  - **All information that may be helpful to Law Enforcement is added and the report is provided to the appropriate agency**



# National Center for Missing and Exploited Children-NCMEC

- ▶ **Any U.S.-based company providing an electronic communication service or a remote computing service to the public through a facility or means of interstate or foreign commerce needs to register with the CyberTipline. 18 U.S.C. 2258A requires ESPs to report apparent child pornography**
- ▶ **Federal law (18 U.S.C. § 2258A) requires ESPs to register with and report apparent child pornography to the National Center for Missing & Exploited Children's CyberTipline. Registered companies receive confirmation notices from the CyberTipline for reports they submit for compliance purposes with 18 U.S.C. § 2258A.**



# Cyber Tipline Reporting Categories

- ▶ **Cyber Tipline reporting categories:**
  - **Possession, Manufacture and Distribution of Child Pornography**
    - **Federal law defines child pornography as the visual depiction of a minor younger than the age of 18 engaged in sexually explicit conduct (18 U.S.C. § 2256). It is a crime to possess, manufacture and/or distribute child pornography (18 U.S.C. § 2251 et seq.)**



# State of Texas Law

## ▶ Possession/Promotion of Child Pornography

- A person commits an offense if the person knowingly or intentionally possesses visual material that visually depicts a child younger than 18 years of age at the time the image of the child was made, who is engaging in sexual conduct, and the person knows that the material depicts such a child.
  - Possession: Third-degree felony
  - Promotion: Second-degree felony



# State of Texas Law

- ▶ **Electronic Transmission of Certain Visual Material Depicting a Minor**
  - **A person commits an offense if the person intentionally or knowingly by electronic means promotes to another minor visual material depicting a minor, including the actor, engaging in sexual conduct, if the actor produced the visual material or knows that another minor produced the visual material.**



# State of Texas Law (exception)

- ▶ **Child erotica**
  - **Any material, relating to children, that serves a sexual purpose for a given individual.**
  - **The material is not usually not illegal to possess.**
  - **Published materials include:**
    - **Sex education**
    - **Child modeling websites**
    - **Sexual abuse of children**
    - **Incest**
    - **Anime**
    - **Man-boy love**
    - **Personal ads**



# Cyber Tipline Reporting Categories

- ▶ **Reporting categories:**
  - **Online Enticement of Children for Sexual Acts**
    - **It is a crime to use the Internet to knowingly persuade, induce, entice or coerce a child younger than the age of 18 to meet for sexual acts or to attempt to arrange such a meeting (18 U.S.C. § 2422(b)).**



# State of Texas Law

## ▶ Online Solicitation of a Minor

- ~~An adult (17 or older) communicates with a minor in a sexually explicit manner or distributes sexually explicit material to a minor through the Internet with the intent to sexually arouse any person. \*\*\*\* LAW CHANGING\*\*\*\*~~
- A person solicits a minor to meet another person, including the actor, with the intent to have sexual contact or intercourse.

\* Prior to 10-30-2013 CCA ruling



# State of Texas Law

- ▶ **Online Solicitation of a Minor (continued)**
  - **A person solicits a minor to meet another person, including the actor, with the intent to have sexual contact or intercourse and actually travels to the meet location.\***
    - **Third-degree felony**
  - **If the actor believes the child to be younger than 14;**
    - **Second-degree felony**

**\*This section is not affected by the CCA ruling.**



# Cyber Tipline Reporting Categories

- ▶ **Reporting categories:**
  - **Child Sex Trafficking**
    - **It is a crime to knowingly recruit, entice, harbor, transport, provide or obtain by any means a child younger than the age of 18 to engage in a commercial sex act. It is also illegal to benefit, either financially or by receiving anything of value, from participation in a prostitution venture in which children are victimized (18 U.S.C. § 1591).**



# Cyber Tipline Reporting Categories

## ▶ Child Sex Trafficking

- Created in October 2011
- Serves as the clearinghouse for information about potential victims of child sex trafficking
- Provides analytical and technical assistance to law enforcement
- Helps link cases of possible child sex trafficking to missing child cases known to NCMEC



# Cyber Tipline Reporting Categories

- ▶ **Reporting categories:**
  - **Sex Tourism Involving Children**
    - **It is a crime for a U.S. citizen to travel to another country intending to engage in sexual activity with a child younger than 18 that would be illegal if it occurred in the U.S. (18 U.S.C. § 2423). Individuals who commit these crimes are subject to prosecution in the U.S. even if the crime was committed on foreign soil.**



# Cyber Tipline Reporting Categories

- ▶ **Reporting categories:**
  - **Extra-familial Child Sexual Molestation**
    - **Extra-familial child sexual molestation is the sexual abuse of a child by someone other than a family member.**
  - **Unsolicited Obscene Material Sent to a Child**
    - **It is a crime to send obscene material to a child younger than the age of 16 if the sender knows the recipient is younger than the age of 16 (18 U.S.C. § 1470).**



# Cyber Tipline Reporting Categories

## ▶ Sextortion

- **Online sexual exploitation in which non-physical forms of coercion are utilized, such as blackmail, to acquire sexual content (photos/videos) of the child, obtain money from the child or engage in sex with the child.**
- **Three most common objectives**
  - **to acquire additional and often increasingly sexually explicit photos/videos of the child-78%**
  - **To obtain money from the child-7%**
  - **To have sex with the child-5%**



# Cyber Tipline Reporting Categories

## ▶ Sextortion

- **Between October 2013 and November 2014**
  - **26% of reports indicate multiple children were targeted by the same suspect**
  - **76% involved female children**
  - **11% involved male children**
  - **13% sex was undetermined**
  - **Average age was 15**
    - **9-17 for female children**
    - **12-17 for male children**
      - **Male children most commonly believed they were communicating with a female in “reciprocal” sexual behavior and were secretly recorded then threatened.**



# National Center for Missing and Exploited Children-NCMEC

## ▶ URL Initiative

- NCMEC maintains a list of URLs for active Web pages containing apparent child pornography. By joining the URL Initiative, Electronic Service Providers are provided access to NCMEC's URL list which is updated daily.

## ▶ PhotoDNA

- PhotoDNA creates a unique signature for a digital image which, like a fingerprint, can be compared with the signatures of other images to find copies of that image. Major U.S. companies have implemented PhotoDNA, and the technology is helping them identify child pornography images on their servers that may have otherwise gone undetected.



# National Center for Missing and Exploited Children-NCMEC

## ▶ Training resources

- [www.missingkids.com/Training](http://www.missingkids.com/Training)
  - NCMEC University Online
  - Missing Children Seminar for Chief Executives
  - Forensic Imaging Training
  - Advanced Forensic Imaging Workshop
  - Child Sex Trafficking Awareness and Response
  - Missing Children Dynamics and Response
  - Missing and Exploited Children for Security Professionals
  - Telecommunications Best Practices for Missing and Abducted Children
  
- [jrletc@ncmec.org](mailto:jrletc@ncmec.org) for more information



# **Mental Disorders And Types of Predators**



# Statistics

- ▶ There are over 81,000 registered sex offenders in Texas according to NCMEC
- ▶ There are more than 819,000 registered sex offenders in the U.S.
- ▶ Dr. Gene Abel, Emory University psychiatrist, conducted confidential interviews which guaranteed immunity from prosecution and found that:
  - Male offenders sexually abused an average of 52 female victims each
  - Male Offenders sexually abused an average of 150 male victims each.
  - Only 3% of these crimes had ever been detected.



# Mental Disorders

- ▶ **Pedophilia**
  - **A paraphilia that involves the abnormal interest in children.**
- ▶ **Pedophile**
  - ***A medical diagnosis* defined as a person with a primary or exclusive sexual attraction to prepubescent children.**
    - **Commonly used to indicate a person with a sexual preference for children, usually under the age of 13**



# Mental Disorders

## ▶ Paraphilia

- A disorder that is characterized by recurrent intense sexual urges and sexually arousing fantasies generally involving;
  - Nonhuman objects
  - Suffering or humiliation
  - Animals
  - Children
  - Other non-consenting persons



# Types of Predators

- ▶ **Situational sex offenders**
  - **Have no special desire for children; they pick children because they're easy to lure and overpower.**
  
- ▶ **Preferential sex offenders**
  - **Have specific sexual preferences and are willing to commit a great deal of time, money, and energy in pursuing their sexual interests.**



# Types of Predators

- ▶ **90% of predators are male, have been married and represented all socioeconomic, racial and ethnic groups nor do they generally discriminate regarding their victims.**
- ▶ **Female predators are prevalent among caregivers and school teachers, but are not generally viewed or handled the same way as males.**

**Krista Denise Mayfield 3-19-72**  
**Sex Offender registration 1-11-02**  
**Victim 16 year old male**





# Types of Predators

- ▶ **Headlines and articles regarding female sex offenders:**
  - **25 Sexiest Sex Offenders to Make The News This Year**
  - **Hot For Teacher**
  - **Top 5 Hottest Female Sex Offenders Of All Time**
  - **10 Hottest Female Sex Offenders**
  
- ▶ **Although it is a “double standard” please consider that female predators can do just as much emotional damage as male predators.**



# Types of Predators

- ▶ **Predators can use computers, online video games, web cams and cell phones to communicate with victims and ask for nude images and videos.**
- ▶ **Predators most likely collect child pornography and child erotica.**
- ▶ **Predators often rationalize that children should receive their sexual education from an older, experienced person.**
- ▶ **Most communication goes undetected and can be deleted easily.**



# Types of Predators

- ▶ **Tactics may include**
  - **Befriending parents, particularly single parents, to gain access to their children.**
  - **Offering babysitting services.**
  - **Taking jobs and participating in community events such as coaching sports that involve children.**
  - **Volunteering in youth organizations, offering to chaperone overnight trips.**
  - **Loitering in places children frequent - playgrounds, malls, game arcades, etc.**



# Cyber Predators

## ▶ Tactics (cont.)

- Often gives the child attention and affection the child may not feel they are receiving at home.
- Often listens to the child's problems and concerns and fulfills their emotional, physical and sexual needs.
- Often "grooms" the child to break down inhibitions through photographs or video of other children engaged in sexual activity.



# Cyber Predators

- ▶ **These offenders often arrange to meet children they have encountered online for the purpose of engaging in sexual activity.**
- ▶ **Even when an offender has a feeling that the person they are meeting is a police officer, they will still show up for the chance to meet an actual child.**



# Social Networking Sites

- ▶ Provide an easy way for predators to search for victims.
  - **83 % of teens log on to at least one social media site every day. (Facebook and YouTube are most popular)**
  - **73% of teens surveyed post photos**
  - **21% post their telephone number**
  - **5% sexual comments or pictures**
  
- ▶ Predators can target victim search by key word, zip code, school, etc.
  - **19% post their physical location**
  - **12% their address**
  
- ▶ Provides an easy way for predators to identify social groups, friends, family and interests to use when “grooming” the victim.



# Social Networking Sites

- ▶ **Provide an easy way for adolescents and children to unwittingly become targets of predators.**
- ▶ **Provide more opportunity for exposure to sexual and graphic material.**
- ▶ **Provide an open forum for Cyberbullying and Online Harassment which can lead to withdrawal, depression and even suicide.**



# Social Networking Sites

- ▶ **Cyber predators online:**
  - **Find victims through:**
    - **Facebook**
    - **Craigslist**
    - **Vampirefreaks.com**
    - **Motherless.com**
    - **Chat rooms**
    - **Blogs**
    - **Gaming sites**
    - **Applications such as MeowChat, Whisper, Instagram, SayHi, Kik**



# Social Networking Sites

- ▶ **Provide inside information to law enforcement.**
  - **Posts to show location or activities on a particular day**
  - **Pictures:**
    - **Vehicles with LPs**
    - **Associates**



# Interviews

- ▶ **Questions to ask victims and or probationers**
  - **Devices used**
  - **Screen and user names or phone numbers**
  - **Internet location-chat room, social networking site, etc.**
  - **Ages discussed – both victim and suspect**
  - **Specific description of content**



# Identify and Understand Digital Evidence



# Forensic Investigations

- ▶ **Computer forensic investigators have the training and equipment to look at digital evidence in a non-invasive way, preserving dates and time stamps of files.**
- ▶ **Files that appear “deleted” can often be detected by a trained forensic examiner.**



# Forensic Investigations

- ▶ **Computers store traces of:**
  - **Documents written and viewed**
  - **Pictures sent and received**
  - **Internet activity including searches**
  - **Printed files**
  - **Saved files**
  - **External devices**
  - **Login and logout times**
  - **Email**
  - **Chat logs**



# Internet Safety

- ▶ In 2005, less than 25% of parents monitored their child's Internet use compared to 92% in 2012.
- ▶ 68% of parents monitor both computers and mobile devices.
  - 49% have set passwords on computers to control usage
  - Only 26% have done the same for mobile devices
- ▶ 51% of parents monitor their child's internet gaming consoles.
  - Only 22% have set passwords for gaming devices
- ▶ 16% of tweens admit they've figured out the passwords
- ▶ 8% admit to changing the passwords to avoid monitoring



# Internet Safety

- ▶ **44% of tweens admit they have looked at or watched something online their parents wouldn't approve of.**
  - **81% of these incidents happened at home**
  - **48% say it happened at home when their parents aren't home.**
  
- ▶ **70% of tweens admit they spend more time on line than allowed.**
  - **55% of parents are aware of this**
  
- ▶ **55% admit to using the Internet later than allowed**
  - **37% of parents are aware of this**



# Contact Information

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National Center for Victims of Crime**
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Supervisory Special Agent**