

Convictions in Hamilton County solicitation stings

Fifteen men have been convicted of sex crimes since January 2002, when Hamilton County sheriff's deputies and Cincinnati police went undercover to catch people soliciting children over the Internet. Most were convicted of "importuning," using a computer or phone to solicit sex from a minor. All 15 have been designated "sexually oriented offenders," meaning they have to register their addresses with the sheriff

of the counties where they live for 10 years. Members of the Hamilton County Regional Electronics and Computer Investigations Task Force have arrested 23 men since January 2002. Seven cases are pending. Another man committed suicide in jail awaiting trial.

The 15 convictions, listed by order of arrest:

Randy D. Carle, 42, Griggsville, Ill.

Occupation:

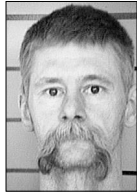
Truck driver

Arrested: Jan. 17, 2002, on one importuning charge.

Accused of:

Arranging to meet a 14-year-old girl (really a detective) for sex.

Outcome: Convicted after a court trial. Sentenced to three years probation and counseling. Must submit to random polygraph tests about computer use.



Todd Hardy, 34, Sycamore Township

Occupation:

Vice president of an Erlanger company

Arrested: Feb. 6, 2002, on two importuning charges.

Accused of: Arranging to meet a 14-year-old girl (really a detective) for sex.

Outcome: Pleaded guilty to one count. Sentenced to three months in jail, two years probation, 250 hours of community service.



John P. Dugan, 49, Union

Occupation:

Self-employed

Arrested: May 17, 2002, on two importuning charges.

Accused of: Arranging to meet a 15-year-old girl (really a detective) for sex.

Outcome: Pleaded guilty to one count. Sentenced to 60 days in jail and two years probation, fined \$2,500.



Johnny R. Higgins, 39, Hamersville, Ohio

Occupation:

Unknown

Arrested: May 22, 2002, on two importuning charges.

Accused of:

Arranging to meet a 15-year-old girl (really a detective) for sex.

Outcome: Pleaded guilty to one count. Sentenced to one year in prison.



David C. Slagle, 30, Colerain Township

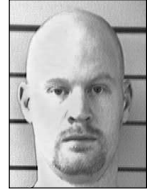
Occupation:

Unknown

Arrested: June 21, 2002, on three importuning counts; one count of attempted unlawful sex with a minor.

Accused of: Arranging to meet a 14-year-old girl (really a detective) for sex.

Outcome: Pleaded guilty to one importuning count and one count of attempted unlawful sex. Sentenced to 180 days in jail and five years probation.



Gale A. McAbee, 49, Mount Healthy

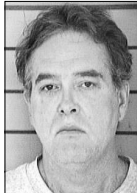
Occupation:

Assistant manager, Colerain Bowl

Arrested: Aug. 2, 2002, eight counts of pandering sexually oriented material to a minor.

Accused of: Transmitting child pornography images over the Internet to a detective in Kansas posing as a juvenile.

Outcome: Pleaded guilty to all eight counts. Sentenced to three years in prison.



Curtis E. Bryan III, 35, Norwood

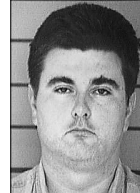
Occupation:

Computer technician

Arrested: Aug. 9, 2002, on three importuning counts and one count of attempted unlawful sex with a minor.

Accused of: Discussing sexual acts in chat rooms with a 14-year-old girl (really a detective) and asking to meet her for sex.

Outcome: Pleaded guilty to one importuning count and one count of attempted unlawful sex. Sentenced to 180 days in jail, five years on probation, and banned from Internet.



Donald Lee Williams, 44, Little Rock, Ark.

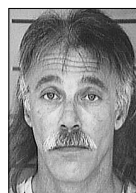
Occupation:

Truck driver

Arrested: Aug. 28, 2002, on two importuning counts and one count of attempted unlawful sex with a minor.

Accused of: Having chat room discussions and telephone conversations about engaging in specific sex acts with a 14-year-old girl (really a detective), then asking to meet her for sex.

Outcome: Pleaded guilty to one importuning count and one count of attempted unlawful sex. Sentenced to one year in prison.



Marc T. Anthony, 34, Newark, Ohio

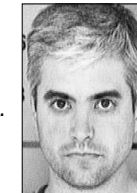
Occupation:

Studying to become a priest

Arrested: Oct. 2002 on two importuning charges and one count of attempted unlawful sex with a minor.

Accused of: Discussing specific sexual conduct in Internet conversations with a 14-year-old girl (really a detective) and arranging to meet her for sex.

Outcome: Convicted of two importuning counts after court trial. Sentenced to 40 days in jail, six months of electronic monitoring, five years probation, counseling, an Internet ban and no unsupervised contact with children.



Perry C. Drake, 53, Marion, Ohio

Occupation:

Manufacturing employee, Maytag

Arrested: Oct. 26, 2002, on two importuning counts and one count of attempted unlawful sex with a minor.

Accused of: Discussing specific sexual acts in an Internet chat room with a 14-year-old girl (really a detective) and arranging to meet her for sex.

Outcome: Pleaded guilty to one importuning count and one count of attempted unlawful sex. Sentenced to 96 days in jail, five years on probation.



Jeffrey L. Robinson, 44, Lakewood, Ohio

Occupation:

Unemployed

Arrested: Nov. 13, 2002, on five counts of pandering sexually oriented material to a minor.

Accused of: Arranging to meet a 14-year-old boy (really a detective) for sex.

Outcome: Pleaded guilty to two counts. Sentenced to two years in prison.



Eugene Hardesty, 32, Sycamore Township

Occupation:

Wal-Mart employee

Arrested: Nov. 26, 2002, on two importuning counts and one count of attempted unlawful sex with a minor.

Accused of: Requesting in a telephone conversation to meet a 15-year-old girl (really a detective) for specific sex acts. Also accused of exposing himself and masturbating via a Web cam.

Outcome: Pleaded guilty to one importuning count and one count of attempted unlawful sex. Sentenced to five years probation, drug and alcohol treatment, behavior modification classes and an Internet ban.



Michael France, 35, Lebanon

Occupation:

Reservist in the Air Force, fought in Iraq

Arrested: March 13 on two importuning counts and one count of attempted unlawful sex with a minor.

Accused of: Discussing engaging in sexual conduct with a 15-year-old girl (really a detective).

Outcome: Pleaded guilty to one importuning count and one count of attempted unlawful sex. Sentenced to 90 days in jail, three years probation and sexual counseling. He is banned from the Internet and from unsupervised visits with children, including his own.



Sean T. Porter, 40, Dayton, Ohio

Occupation:

Owens tile company

Arrested: March 26 on one importuning count and one count of attempted unlawful sex with a minor.

Accused of: Requesting sex from a 13-year-old girl (really a detective) over the Internet, then e-mailing a nude photo to her.

Outcome: Pleaded guilty to both charges. Sentenced to spend 180 days in jail, attend counseling and serve five years probation. He also is banned from unsupervised contact with minors.



Brian A. Simpson, 41, Hamilton

Occupation:

Sales clerk

Arrested: March 28 on three counts of importuning and one count of attempted unlawful sex with a minor.

Accused of: Discussing in Internet chat room conversations engaging in specific sexual conduct with a 15-year-old girl (really a detective) and traveling to Hamilton County to meet her.

Outcome: Pleaded guilty one importuning count and one count of attempted unlawful sex. Sentenced to 180 days in jail, five years probation, counseling. He was banned from the Internet and from unsupervised contact with children.

