



BOONE COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT CYBER CRIMES TASK FORCE

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Web Site: WWW.BCSDCYBERCRIMES.COM

Media Release

Primary Agencies:

Boone County Sheriff's Dept.
Boone County Prosecuting
Attorney's Office
University of Missouri Police
Department
Federal Bureau of Investigation

Incident: Child Pornography Arrest

Location: Randolph County, Missouri

Details:

Associate Agencies:

Ashland Police Department
Auxvasse Police Department
Boonville Police Department
Centralia Police Department
Columbia Police Dept.
Fayette Police Department
Fulton Police Department
Hallsville Police Department
Jefferson City Police
Department
Holt's Summit Police Dept.
Mexico Department of Public
Safety
Moberly Police Department
Sturgeon Police Department
Audrain County Sheriff's Office
Cole County Sheriff's
Department
Cooper County Sheriff's
Department
Callaway County Sheriff's
Department
Howard County Sheriff's
Department
Randolph County Sheriff's
Department

On the morning of Thursday, January 19, 2012 a 41 year old Huntsville, Missouri man was arrested by the Randolph County Sheriff's Department on an outstanding Randolph County arrest warrant on child pornography charges. This arrest is the result of a joint investigation between the Boone County Sheriff's Department Cyber Crimes Task Force and the Randolph County Sheriff's Department.

The investigation began in Mid-May 2011 when investigators from the Boone County Sheriff's Department Cyber Crimes Task Force obtained information that child pornography was being offered for distribution from a residence in the Randolph County area. On two separate occasions during the investigation child pornography was transferred from the suspected location to a Task Force investigator. As part of this investigation Task Force investigators were able to specifically identify a residence in Huntsville, Missouri as the location from where the child pornography was being offered.

In conjunction with the Randolph County Sheriff's Department a search warrant for the residence was obtained and on June 27, 2011 investigators with the Cyber Crimes Task Force and the Randolph County Sheriff's Department served that warrant seizing numerous items of evidence including computers and electronic media. During a subsequent examination of the computers and associated media over one hundred child pornography files including photographs and videos were located.

On January 17, 2012 the Randolph County Prosecuting Attorney file charges against the suspect for the offenses of Possession of Child Pornography and Promoting Child Pornography in the First Degree. On January 19, 2012 the suspect was subsequently arrested by the Randolph County Sheriff's Department.

The suspect is identified as 41 year old Ralph Edward Woods Jr. of 825 Heether Street, Huntsville, Missouri. At the time of this release the suspect is in the Randolph County Jail pending the posting of a \$50,000 bond.

This arrest was the result of the Cyber Crimes Task Force, Randolph County Sheriff's Department, and Randolph County Prosecuting Attorney's Office working together to protect Missouri's children and families.

All suspects are considered innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.

The Boone County Sheriff's Department Cyber Crimes Task Force is comprised of investigators from the Boone County Sheriff's Department, the University of Missouri Police Department, and the Federal Bureau of Investigations.

This project is supported by funding made available through the federal Recovery Act –Edward Byrne Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Program administered by the U.S. Dept. of Justice & Mo. Dept of Public Safety.

Release date & time: 1-19-2012 / 10:45 a.m.
Release authorized by: Andy Anderson