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**UNITED STATES SECRET SERVICE HEADQUARTERS HOSTS  
INTERNET SAFETY SEMINAR AND EXPO**

WASHINGTON – On Friday, January 24, 2003, the United States Secret Service, in cooperation with the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children, hosted a Internet Safety Seminar and Expo for Kids. The event highlights cyber-safety and the prevention of online victimization.

According to Timothy Caddigan, Special Agent in Charge of the United States Secret Service Financial Crimes Division, approximately 100 children, ages 8-14, from Thaddeus Stevens Elementary School in Washington, D.C., attended the seminar.

“For nearly a decade, the United States Secret Service has had a partnership with the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children, which illustrates the agency’s commitment to supporting America’s youth,” Caddigan said. “This event is one way we can help reach out to local area children and teach them how to protect themselves online.”

The Internet Safety Seminar and Expo for Kids includes information on how to prevent and avoid online enticement and solicitation of children for sexual activity, exposure to unwanted sexual material, and harassment and/or offensive behavior. Privacy issues and information on filtering and blocking software is also provided, as well as instruction on when and how to report any unwanted advances or material.

The Secret Service has conducted numerous events similar to this throughout the country. This is the first event to be hosted at the agency’s Memorial Headquarters Building in downtown Washington, D.C.

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