



**INSPECTOR GENERAL
DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE
DEFENSE CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE
SYRACUSE POST OF DUTY
441 S. SALINA ST, STE 602
SYRACUSE, NY 13202-2400**

(Investigations)

REPORT OF INVESTIGATION

200701512S-24-JUL-2007-10SY-W1/F

09-MAY-2008



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Headquarters, Investigative Operations Directorate
Northeast Field Office
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NARRATIVE

1. On July 11, 2007, the reporting agent received a lead referral from Special Agent [REDACTED] [REDACTED], DCIS Mid-Atlantic Field Office regarding the Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) initiated Operation Flicker. Operation Flicker is a nationwide investigation that has identified over 5,000 individuals that have subscribed to predicated child pornography websites. [REDACTED] [REDACTED] sent a list of individuals in New York State that are employed by the Department of Defense/U.S. Military, that have subscribed to websites that contain child pornographic images or other material that exploit children via the internet.
2. On May 17, 2007, [REDACTED] [REDACTED] attended a briefing at ICE, Fairfax, Virginia regarding Operation Flicker. The briefing included the following background information:
3. In April 2006, the ICE/Cyber Crimes Center/Child Exploitation Section (ICE/C3/CES) initiated an investigation into a criminal organization operating a commercial child pornography website known as "Home Collection." The investigation has revealed that the same organization is operating numerous commercial child pornography websites. In addition, the organization utilizes various Pay Pal accounts to process the payments for access to the member restricted areas of these websites. The investigation is being worked jointly with ICE/C3/CES, ICE/RAC/Birmingham, the U.S. Postal Inspection Service, the U.S. Department of Justice/Child Exploitation and Obscenity Section, and the USAO for the Northern District of Alabama. ICE has designated this operation as PROJECT FLICKER.
4. ICE/C3/CES has conducted over 60 undercover transactions at the advertising websites associated with this investigation. The investigation has identified that a specific criminal organization is operating approximately 18 different commercial child pornography advertising websites which provide access to approximately 18 child pornography member restricted websites. This criminal organization has utilized a specific and identifiable payment website known as "iWest." The information developed during the course of the investigation has identified that the organization (1) uses various Pay Pal accounts to facilitate the customer payments; (2) uses specific subject identifiers within the Pay Pal accounts to identify purchases into the various member restricted websites; and (3) uses specific administrative e-mail accounts that are used to distribute access to the member restricted websites.
5. Among the 5,000 names ICE identified under Project Flicker, several individuals used their .mil e-mail address, Fleet Post Office (FPO), or Army Post Office (APO) military zip codes. [REDACTED] [REDACTED] advised the U.S. Attorney's Office and ICE that the DCIS will assist in identifying any additional Department of Defense (DoD) affiliated individuals and provide any investigative assistance.

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- 11. This investigation was anticipated to be conducted jointly with Immigration and Customs Enforcement, Massena, NY. As ICE was determined to be the lead agency, and the fact that there was only a loose affiliation between the subject and the DoD, this investigation was deferred to ICE Massena for any action they deemed appropriate.
- 12. This investigation is closed.

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IDENTITY OF SUBJECTS

Name	:	[REDACTED]
Alias	:	[REDACTED]
Social Security Number	:	[REDACTED]
Date of Birth	:	[REDACTED]
Sex	:	[REDACTED]
Race	:	[REDACTED]
Height	:	[REDACTED]
Weight	:	[REDACTED]
Eyes	:	[REDACTED]
Hair	:	[REDACTED]
Residence	:	[REDACTED]

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EXHIBITS

1 - Excel Spreadsheet titled "Flicker New York" – identifies [REDACTED] as a subject. .

Prepared by: [REDACTED], Syracuse Post of Duty

APPR: [REDACTED]

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