



News Release

Sheriff Contact: John Roach: 313-224-0615

Release Date: Sunday, July 15, 2007

Warren C. Evans
Sheriff

Internet deputies arrest registered sex offender who arranged for sex with boy, 14

◆ ***Suspect & 2nd man planned to bring boy to Port Huron for a weekend of abuse***

Wayne County Sheriff's Deputies have arrested two Port Huron men, one of them a registered sex offender, after they drove to metro Detroit late last week allegedly expecting to meet an underage boy and take him back to Port Huron for a weekend of sex, Sheriff Warren Evans announced today.



Evans said that Gordon Henry Deshon, 42, (top) chatted numerous times over a three day period last week with the undercover deputy, who was posing online at the time as the 14-year-old boy. During the chats, Deshon indicated to the officer that he and another man, Raymond Baker, also 42, (bottom) both planned to have sex with the boy and that both men knew the boy was only fourteen. Baker has no prior criminal sexual history.



According to Evans, both men drove from the Port Huron area to suburban Wayne County on Thursday to a pre-arranged meet location, where they were met and arrested by sheriff's deputies. Deshon, who has been a registered sex offender (#12880527) since 2002, had not registered his current address with local authorities - a felony violation of the Michigan Public Sex Offender Registry Act punishable by up to 5 years in prison.

Suspect lives near playground

Deputies also discovered when they executed a search warrant on the suspects' Port Huron apartment that they live less than 100 yards from a public playground frequented by large numbers of young children. According to state law, registered sex offenders like Deshon cannot live closer than 500 feet from a public playground. The suspects' apartment also overlooked the building's swimming pool, also frequented by young children.

#more#

"This case clearly illustrates why the Sex Offender Registry is important to protecting people, especially children, from the kind of abuse Deshon and his friend were attempting to arrange," Evans said. "People who commit sex crimes are very difficult to rehabilitate because they often act out of a compulsion and are prone to re-offend. I feel very strongly that these arrests may have prevented the future abuse of real children."

Deshon was added to the state's sex offender registry in 2002 after he fondled a fellow male inmate in the Oakland County Jail while serving a sentence on a breaking & entering conviction. Deshon also spent time in jail in 2006 for failing to register a new address as a sex offender.

Evans said that during his chats, Deshon also allegedly exposed himself to the undercover officer over the Internet and that Deshon and Baker engaged in oral sex with each other in front of a web camera so the undercover officer could watch. When the suspects arrived at the meet location, officers found a compartment under the seat in the suspects' mini-van that contained sexual aids, including condoms and lubricants.

"These two men appeared fully prepared to act out their sick fantasies on a young child," Evans said. "We also have reason to believe that Mr. Deshon has been downloading child pornography onto his computer, which our investigators have seized as evidence and will examine."

Both men were video arraigned Saturday in Romulus District Court on multiple charges. Deshon's charges were as follows:

1. Child sexually abusive activity - 20 year felony*
- 2-4 Illegal Use of the Internet / Attempted Criminal Sexual Conduct (3rd Degree) - 20 year felony
5. Disseminating obscene material to a minor - 2 year felony*
6. Using the Internet to disseminate obscene material to a minor - 4 year felony*

Baker was charged only with counts 1, 5 & 6 since he was not the one chatting online with the undercover officer.

Both men are being held at the Wayne County Jail on \$250,000 cash bond. Their next court date is July 26th.