



# News Release

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Warren C. Evans  
Sheriff

## **Internet deputies arrest “serial cyber flasher”**

♦ ***Sheriff says men exposing genitals over web is latest threat to children***

Wayne County Sheriff Warren Evans is warning parents about a troubling new phenomenon that is threatening all children who use the Internet. Evans calls the men who do it “cyber flashers.”

Case in point: late last week, Evans’ Internet Crime Unit arrested a 23-year-old Dexter man they say exposed and fondled himself over the Internet to what he believed were three different underage girls, Evans announced today. Instead, Evans said the man was exposing himself to undercover Deputies posing as underage girls online.



Deputies arrested Christopher Maksym, 23, at his home on Wednesday while executing a search warrant to obtain his computer. Evans says that Maksym had chatted since mid-February with investigators in his Internet Crime Unit. During his chats, Evans said, Maksym made it clear each time that he understood he was chatting with a child, but proceeded to expose himself via a web camera viewable by the undercover officers and to masturbate while they watched.

In the past six months, Evans said his Internet Crime Unit has investigated between 40 and 50 similar cases.

“This is a growing phenomenon our investigators have seen and that parents need to be very concerned about,” Evans said. “These Cyber Flashers are the modern equivalent of the pervert at the playground in a trench coat,” Evans said.

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Investigators say that Maksym allegedly exposed himself to one officer posing as a 14-year-old twice in February and expressed in graphic detail his desire to have sex with the girl. They also say that he exposed himself to two other girls he believed to be ages 13 and fourteen. Because of Maksym's numerous explicit contacts with deputies, Evans said it was important to arrest him now, rather than try to set up a face-to-face meeting for sex.

"Because of his propensity for this kind of activity, I have serious concerns that he may have been exposing himself to actual underage girls, so there may be some real victims out there," Evans said. "He was so casual about it after having only brief chats that I have to assume he may have done this before," Evans said.

Evans said that his office is working on numerous similar investigations, including one that has shocked even veteran investigators and may involve dozens of real children who have been victimized in this way.

Maksym was arraigned on Friday in 31<sup>st</sup> District Court on the following charges:

- Illegal Use of the Internet/Communicating With Another to Commit a Crime (four counts)
- Accosting a Child for Immoral Purposes
- Distributing Obscene Material to a Child (two counts)

He is being held at the Wayne County Jail on \$100,000 bond.