



HAWTHORNE POLICE DEPARTMENT

PRESS RELEASE

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HPD DR

Suitable For Public Dissemination

PREDATOR STING ARREST

On March 21, 2007 members of the Hawthorne, Palos Verdes Estates, Gardena, Culver City, Hermosa Beach, El Segundo and Inglewood Police departments formed a joint task force aimed at the apprehension of Internet predators. This task force was named the South Bay Internet Predator Task Force. The Operation was conducted jointly with the Court Television Network and ran from March 21, 2007 through April 7, 2007. At the conclusion the operation a total of 15 arrests were made.

One arrest, that of Joseph Carlos, age 31 was referred to the Justice System Integrity Unit of the Los Angeles County District Attorneys office. At the time of Mr. Carlos' arrest he was an active member of the Los Angeles County Sheriffs office holding the position of Deputy Sheriff. Mr. Carlos was arrested on March 31, 2007 at approximately 2040 hours, in the city of Hawthorne. Mr. Carlos was booked at the Hawthorne Police department on charges of Communicating with a minor for the purpose of luring and contacting with the intent to commit lewd acts. Mr. Carlos was released after posting bond.

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