

Fed probe breaks up 2 child prostitution rings - U.S. attorney says five people have been arrested for posting ads on social networking sites.

Detroit News, The (MI) - Friday, March 21, 2008

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DETROIT -- Federal investigators have cracked two Detroit-based sex rings that advertised child prostitutes on the Internet and have charged five people, U.S. Attorney Stephen J. Murphy announced Thursday.

Two separate but related prostitution rings were headed by Robert C. Daniels, aka "**Motor City Mink**," 28, of Detroit and Dennis Paige, aka "Detroit Slim," of Novi. An FBI investigation accused them and three prostitutes of posting more than 2,800 advertisements on social networking Web sites such as Craigslist and MySpace since Jan. 10, 2006.

The rings solicited prostitutes in Houston; Chicago; Detroit; Milwaukee, Wis.; Cleveland; Washington, D.C.; New York **City** ; and College Park, Md.

One prostitute, Stephanie Head, 22, of Detroit, worked as Daniels' highest-ranking prostitute and was accused of soliciting and training minors to engage in prostitution, photographing them in sexually explicit conduct and posting the images on the Internet, according to Murphy. Two other women, Sarah Dutton and Hortense Canty of Novi, performed similar duties for Paige's sex network, Murphy said.

"The United States Attorney's Office is committed to making defendants answer for crimes that exploit and abuse young women," Murphy said in a statement. "The offenses charged in today's complaints are not victimless crimes and we will work tirelessly to ensure that those who use the Internet to facilitate the sexual exploitation of children will be brought to justice."

The FBI identified nine minors and more than 80 adults who have been advertised as prostitutes. Head and Daniels rented rooms for the purpose of prostitution at a Red Roof Inn and Motel 6 in Southfield, said a news release.

Southfield **City** Councilman Myron Frasier said the suburbs are "not immune" to crime, but such incidents are not typical.

Craigslist CEO Jim Buckmaster said the site maintains various measures to minimize misuse.

Illegal activity is banned in its terms of use, and violators can face account suspension and other penalties, he said.

"Misuse ... in connection with illegal activity of any kind is absolutely unacceptable to us," Buckmaster said. "That's something we're working continuously to eliminate."

Buckmaster said he was unsure if listings by those allegedly involved in the Detroit rings had been removed Thursday, but "illegal postings brought to our attention are promptly removed."

Head and Daniels are charged with conspiracy, sex trafficking of children, interstate transportation in aid of racketeering, sexual exploitation of children and transportation for the purposes of prostitution.

Paige, Dutton and Canty face charges of sex trafficking of children, transporting a minor for purposes of prostitution and transportation for purposes of prostitution.

All five were temporarily detained Thursday and face detention hearings Friday.

Section: Metro

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Company Name: #keywords2#

Index Terms: PROSTITUTION ; ARRESTS ; CHILDREN ; INTERNET

Dateline: DETROIT

Record Number: det33281551

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