

Lake County Sheriff's Office

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MEDIA RELEASE

Ingleside Sexual Predator Again Charged with Child Pornography

On November 20, 2020, Lake County Sheriff's Detectives and the Sheriff's Warrants Team served an arrest warrant on Joshua S. Hoffman, 29, of the 35700 block of North Ash Street, Ingleside. Hoffman is a registered child sexual predator, stemming from a 2016 search warrant conducted by the Lake County Sheriff's Office Cybercrimes Unit. At that time, Hoffman was found to be in possession of hundreds of child pornography videos. He was also found to be in possession of numerous illegal controlled substances and a firearm at the time.

This November, Lake County Sheriff's Detectives became aware that Hoffman was engaged in inappropriate electronic conversations with a 12-year-old girl from Edwardsville, IL. During these conversations, Hoffman solicited and received nude images from the child. During at least one online video conversation, Hoffman exposed his nude body to the child.

The Edwardsville Police Department, Lake County Sheriff's Office, Madison County State's Attorney's Office, and Lake County State's Attorney's Office collaborated, and a search warrant was obtained for Hoffman's residence on November 19, 2020. Additionally, Madison County issued an arrest warrant for Hoffman on November 12, 2020 for two counts of child pornography (one being a class X felony and one being a class 1 felony) and grooming (class 4 felony). A Madison County Judge set the bond on the warrant at \$500,000.00.

On November 20, 2020, Lake County Sheriff's Detectives and the Lake County Warrants Team served the search and arrest warrants. They were assisted by the Lake County State's Attorney's Office. During the search warrant electronics were seized along with numerous controlled substances.

After reviewing the facts of the case, the Lake County State's Attorney's Office approved the charges of:

Possession of a controlled substance with intent to deliver (class 3 felony).
Two counts of possession of a controlled substance (class 4 felonies).

Additional charges are likely after a forensic examination is conducted of the electronics seized from Hoffman's residence and following additional testing of the controlled substances seized.

Hoffman remains held in the Lake County Jail pending an initial court hearing this morning.

All defendants are presumed innocent unless proven guilty in a court of law.

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