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BROOKLYN TEACHER CHARGED IN INTERNET "SEX STING"

Allegedly Tried to Lure Undercover Detective Posing as 14-Year-Old Queens Girl to Meet For Sex

Queens District Attorney Richard A. Brown announced today that a 27-year-old Brooklyn man has been charged with attempting to meet for sexual relations a person he had met online and who he believed to be a 14-year-old girl. The alleged victim was actually a New York City Police Department undercover detective assigned to its Vice Enforcement Division.

District Attorney Brown said, "The amazing advances in technology over the last two decades have enabled ordinary people to have instantaneous access to all kinds of information as well as to other people across the globe. Unfortunately, sexual predators have wasted little time turning the Internet into a hunting ground for their young victims. It is imperative that parents monitor their children's online activities to protect them from those that would seek to harm or exploit them."

The District Attorney identified the defendant as Adam Kent, 27, who teaches science to 6th and 8th grade students at Yeshiva Ohr Shraga Veretzky, an all boys private school located in the Midwood section of Brooklyn. The defendant presently resides at a men's dormitory located at 824 Eastern Parkway, in Brooklyn. He was arrested last night and is presently awaiting arraignment in Queens Criminal Court on charges of attempted use of a child in a sexual performance, second-degree attempted criminal sexual act, second-degree attempted rape, first-degree attempted dissemination of indecent material to minors and attempted endangering the welfare of a child. The defendant faces up to seven years in prison if convicted.

District Attorney Brown said that, according to the charges, an NYPD vice detective was operating in an undercover capacity as a 14-year-old girl from Queens on multiple occasions between June 20, 2011 and November 1, 2011, during which time he received numerous instant messages from the defendant via America Online instant messenger. The defendant, who was using the screen name notb0redadam, allegedly sent messages that were sexual in nature and included invitations to meet him for sexual activity in Queens. In addition, it is alleged, the defendant indicated that he wanted to make a video of them having sex so he could look at it with her.

Kent was arrested last night when he appeared at a pre-arranged Queens location for what he allegedly believed would be a sexual encounter with the 14-year-old he had been instant messaging.

The investigation was conducted by NYPD Detective Sean Ryan of the Vice Enforcement Major Case Team of the Vice Enforcement Division under the supervision of Sergeant Robert Minca and Lieutenant Michael Costello, and the overall supervision of Deputy Inspector Anthony Favale, Commanding Officer of Vice Enforcement Division and Chief Anthony Izzo, Chief of the Organized Crime Control Bureau.

Senior Assistant District Attorney Kateri A. Gasper, of the District Attorney's Special Proceedings Bureau, is prosecuting the case under the supervision of Robert D. Alexander, Chief, Computer Crimes Unit, and Assistant District Attorneys Anthony M. Communiello, Bureau Chief, and Oscar W. Ruiz, Deputy Bureau Chief, and the overall supervision of Executive Assistant District Attorney for Investigations Peter A. Crusco and Deputy Executive Assistant District Attorney for Investigations Linda M. Cantoni.

It should be noted that a criminal complaint is merely an accusation and that a defendant is presumed innocent until proven guilty.

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Note to Editors: E-version of this press release posted at www.queensda.org