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**U.S. ARRESTS MIDDLE SCHOOL MUSIC TEACHER
FOR USING THE INTERNET TO ENTICE
A MINOR GIRL FOR SEXUAL ACTIVITY**

MICHAEL J. GARCIA, the United States Attorney for the Southern District of New York, and MARK J. MERSHON, the Assistant Director of the FBI in Charge of the New York Field Office, announced that ALAN SCHAEFER was arrested today on charges of using the Internet to attempt to entice a minor -- whom he believed to be a thirteen-year-old girl -- to engage in sexual activities. According to the Complaint filed yesterday in Manhattan federal court:

In July 2005, SCHAEFER engaged in Internet conversations with "Mary," an individual he believed to be a thirteen-year-old girl, but who was actually an undercover officer with the New York City Police Department ("NYPD"). During these conversations, SCHAEFER explicitly and graphically described the sexual activities in which he planned to engage with the "girl" when the two met in person. SCHAEFER revealed to the undercover officer that he worked as a music teacher at a middle school in Queens, New York.

On July 7, 2005, SCHAEFER initiated an instant messaging ("IM") conversation with "Mary" and asked if she "was looking for an older guy who loves young girls?" SCHAEFER told "Mary" that he loved "girls who look innocent but can be really sexy when they want to be." Soon after this IM conversation, SCHAEFER sent the officer an email with a picture of himself attached. In that email, SCHAEFER wrote, "I hope you get this and I hope you like me."

In a subsequent IM conversation on July 19, 2006, SCHAEFER told "Mary" he could "meet right now, or tomorrow the same time if you want." SCHAEFER then told the "girl" to "just meet and if you like me you can hold my hand or kiss me" and proceeded to describe sexual activity in which he wanted to engage with the "girl."

That same day, SCHAEFER had a telephone conversation with a second officer from the New York City Police Department acting in an undercover capacity as "Mary." During this conversation, SCHAEFER indicated that he loved that she was thirteen.

On July 20, 2005, SCHAEFER engaged in another IM conversation with the first officer and informed her that he was coming to Manhattan's Washington Square Park to meet her. Later that day, SCHAEFER met with the second undercover officer, who had the appearance of a teenage girl and was acting as "Mary." SCHAEFER identified himself and had a conversation with "Mary." SCHAEFER and this officer then walked up the stairs of what he was told was the home of the "girl," at which time SCHAEFER was arrested by the New York City Police Department. SCHAEFER acknowledged that at the time of this arrest, he was a music teacher at M.S. 67, located in Queens, New York.

The Complaint charges SCHAEFER with one count of using the Internet to persuade, induce, entice, and coerce an individual younger than eighteen years old to engage in sexual activity. If convicted, the defendant faces a mandatory minimum prison term of five years and a maximum prison term of 30 years.

The defendant is scheduled to appear before United States Magistrate Judge JAMES C. FRANCIS in Manhattan federal court today.

Mr. GARCIA praised the investigative efforts of the FBI and the NYPD in this case and also thanked the Manhattan District Attorney's Office for its help and cooperation in the investigation.

Assistant United States Attorney STEVE C. LEE is in charge of the prosecution.

The charges contained in the Complaint are merely accusations, and the defendant is presumed innocent unless and until proven guilty.