

Child Solicitation & Other Internet Crime Preventions Tips

- Be very, very careful what information you allow your children to post on Facebook, Myspace, and similar sites.
- Contact your local police department and/or your Internet Service Provider for additional information or assistance if you have any questions.
- Educate your family as to the type of predators that use the internet to identify and locate victims and how the anonymity of the internet allows people to masquerade as someone that they are not. Use examples of crimes committed in our own community as well as across the country.
- Lay down strict ground rules for your children's internet use and enforce them. Examples of some appropriate rules include:
- Prohibiting children from using the internet when you are not home.
- Prohibiting children from using instant messaging, accessing chat rooms and communicating with people that they, and you, do not know from the "real" world.
- Make it your business to know your children's business.
- Check on them periodically while they are using the computer.
- Check their email and Deleted folders for suspicious messages.
- Check your web browser for suspicious web sites.
- Use the content filtering features of your web browser or invest in a commercial product with more robust filtering capabilities from a vendor such as Symantec, McAfee, or Web Scout.