



### **Northeast Computer Crime Task Force announces results of a child predator sting in Bradford County**

From Monday, April 7, through Friday, April 11, the Pennsylvania State Police (PSP) – Bureau of Criminal Investigations – Northeast Computer Crime Task Force (PSP-BCI-NECCTF) conducted child predator sting Bradford County, an operation aimed at identifying offenders involved in the possession, distribution, and production of child sexual abuse material (CSAM), as well as locating victims of child exploitation in Bradford County.

For this operation, NECCTF collaborated with agents from the FBI offices in Philadelphia and Williamsport; intelligence agents in Delaware County; agents from the Pennsylvania Office of Attorney General (PAOAG) – Eastern Child Predator Unit; police officers from Canton Borough Police Department, detectives from Lycoming, Lackawanna, and Bradford counties; and troopers from PSP Towanda.

During the operation, the Task Force responded to 15 homes investigating internet-related crimes against children. Twenty-four National Center Missing and Exploited Children (NCMEC) cyber-tips were investigated and closed out. Seven residential search warrants were executed, leading to six arrests:

- Robert Michel W/N/M, Wysox, PA
- Calvin Shaffer W/N/M, Wyalusing PA
- Evan Hitchcock, W/N/M, Rome PA
- Brandon Lantz, W/N/M, Athens PA
- Brad Swink, W/N/M, Rome PA
- Robert Pillot, W/N/M, Canton PA

One additional arrest is pending the results of a digital forensics investigation.

Additionally, the operation located and identified several juvenile victims. The juvenile victims and parents were educated about the dangers of online activity. Parents and guardians can find resources and information at <https://www.missingkids.org/home>.



The results of the child predator sting in Bradford County were made possible through collaboration with the Bradford County District Attorney's Office.

Members of the PSP-BCI-NECCTF are members of the Internet Crimes Against Children (ICAC) Task Force, a national network of 61 coordinated task forces representing more than 4,500 federal, state, and local enforcement agencies and prosecutorial agencies. These agencies are continually engaged in proactive and reactive investigations and prosecutions of people involved in child abuse and exploitation via the internet.

NECCTF agencies include the following police departments: Dallas Township, Town of Bloomsburg, Hazleton City, West Hazleton Borough, Wyoming Regional, and Kingston Township; and detectives from the following counties: Lycoming, Luzerne, Lackawanna, and Wayne.

### **Robert Michel**

10 Counts of Felony 2 Sexual Abuse of Children (Possession), Title 18 Section 6312 D

1 Counts of Felony 3 Sexual Abuse of Children (Possession), Title 18 Section 6312 D

2 Counts of Felony 3 Criminal Use of Communication Facility, Title 18 Section 7512 A

Remanded to prison for failure to post bail on \$100,000

### **Calvin Shaffer**

10 Counts of Felony 2 Sexual Abuse of Children (Possession), Title 18 Section 6312 D

10 Counts of Felony 3 Sexual Abuse of Children (Possession), Title 18 Section 6312 D

2 Counts of Felony 3 Sexual Abuse of Children (Dissemination), Title Section 6312 C



2 Counts of Felony 3 Criminal Use of Communication Facility, Title 18 Section 7512 A  
Remanded to prison for failure to post bail on \$75,000

**Evan Hitchcock**

10 Counts of Felony 2 Sexual Abuse of Children (Possession), Title 18 Section 6312 D  
10 Counts of Felony 3 Sexual Abuse of Children (Possession), Title 18 Section 6312 D  
1 Count of Felony 3 Criminal Use of Communication Facility, Title 18 Section 7512 A  
Remanded to prison for failure to post bail on \$300,000

**Brandon Lantz**

11 Counts of Felony 2 Sexual Abuse of Children (Possession), Title 18 Section 6312 D  
11 Counts of Felony 3 Sexual Abuse of Children (Possession), Title 18 Section 6312 D  
6 Counts of Felony 3 Criminal Use of Communication Facility, Title 18 Section 7512 A  
Remanded to prison for failure to post bail on \$500,000



**Brad Swink**

3 Counts of Felony 2 Sexual Abuse of Children (Possession), Title 18 Section 6312 D

2 Counts of Felony 2 Sexual Abuse of Children (Production), Title 18 Section 6312 B

1 Count of Felony 3 Criminal Use of Communication Facility, Title 18 Section 7512 A

Remanded to prison for failure to post bail on \$500,000

**Robert Pillot**

2 Counts of Felony 1 Sexual Abuse of Children (Production), Title 18 Section 6312

10 Count of Felony 1 Sexual Abuse of Children (Possession), Title 18 Section 6312 D

20 Counts of Felony 2 Sexual Abuse of Children (Possession), Title 18 Section 6312 D

1 Count of Felony 3 Sexual Abuse of Children (Dissemination), Title 18 Section 6312 D

6 Counts of Felony 2 Fail to Provide Accurate Registration Info, Title 18 Section 4915.1

Remanded to prison for no bail.