



May 13, 2019

The Honorable Brian Schatz
United States Senate
722 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Lisa Murkowski
United States Senate
522 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Schatz and Senator Murkowski:

The National Criminal Justice Training Center (NCJTC) of Fox Valley Technical College is pleased to support S. 1413, the END National Defense Network Abuse Act, and thanks you both for introducing this much needed bipartisan legislation. This bill would provide essential training to military investigators worldwide in support of their efforts to combat the online exploitation and sexual abuse of children committed by people who reside or work on our military installations.

The NCJTC has had the responsibility for training the nation's federally funded Internet Crimes Against Children (ICAC) Task Forces since the program's inception in 2003. With support from the Department of Justice (DOJ) and the FBI, NCJTC developed a system of investigative tools beginning in 2008, designed to support the investigation of the manufacture and distribution of child pornography through what are known as Peer-to Peer (P2P) file sharing networks. Since that time, we have successfully trained over 6,000 investigators worldwide on the ICACCOPS system, but only 29 military investigators are currently using the system. Unfortunately, our funding through DOJ is intended to support the 61 ICAC Task Forces and the nearly 4,000 affiliated state and local law enforcement and prosecutorial agencies combatting these crimes. We allow military investigators access to our training and the ICACCOPS system whenever we have last minute vacancies to fill, however those opportunities are few and far between.

Over 17,000 unique Internet Protocol (IP) addresses are logged every day in the United States every day trading child pornography by the ICACCOPS system. Many offenders are in possession of thousands of files, including files that we have categorized as severe files of interest because they depict the rape and torture of pre-pubescent children, toddlers and infants. Studies have shown that at least half of the people who regularly trade child pornography images and videos are also hands on offenders, meaning that they molest children.

We were concerned to learn that Department of Defense Network (DoD) network ranked 19th out of the 2,891 Internet Service Providers trading child pornography being tracked through our system. Last year we logged 4,688 unique IP addresses trading known child pornography through the DoD network. In a pilot project, the Naval Criminal Investigators Service (NCIS) provided ICACCOPS with IP addresses that are logged in the military's computer systems.

Seven percent (7%) of those IP addresses were also detected in ICACCOPS trading child pornography. Military investigators want and need this training but cannot get access because our funding does not support them.

Passage of this critically important legislation would provide the resources necessary for military investigative personnel worldwide to receive the same training and access to resources currently available to the nation's law enforcement community and help protect children residing both on and off military installations that are victimized by these offenders.

Thank you for your leadership in the United States Congress. Please do not hesitate to use NCJTC as a resource as you work on these critically important issues.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Brad Russ", with a stylized, cursive script.

Brad Russ
Executive Director
National Criminal Justice Training Center