



## LOS ANGELES COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE MEDIA RELATIONS DIVISION

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### **Retired CHP Officer Charged in Child Porn Case**

**LOS ANGELES** – A retired California Highway Patrol officer accused of creating a phony user profile on a social networking site to allegedly bait youth has been charged with half a dozen felony counts, the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office announced.

Deputy District Attorney Samer Hathout of the High Tech Crime Division said Edward John Hofer, 53 (dob 10/10/59), is charged with two counts each of sending harmful matter to a minor, possession of child pornography and contact with a minor for sexual offense.

Hofer may be arraigned as early as Tuesday in the Los Angeles County Superior Court, Foltz Criminal Justice Center, Department 30. He is charged in case No. BA410406.

Hofer, who allegedly identified himself as a teenage girl, met an 11-year-old boy and a 15-year-old girl on Tagged.com. The criminal complaint was filed for warrant on April 23. The Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department, Special Victims Bureau is the investigating agency.

Hofer retired from the CHP in 2012. His last assignment was in the Torrance area.

Hofer was arrested this morning without incident. His recommended bail is \$90,000.

If convicted as charged, he faces a maximum sentence of six years, four months in state prison.

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