



PRESS RELEASE

Leander Man Sent to Prison for Soliciting Minors for Sex Online

Bryan, TX – Arnold Elkins, 58, of Leander was sentenced to 6 years in prison by Judge Kyle Hawthorne on Friday for Online Solicitation of a Minor. Elkins was convicted that same day by a Brazos County Jury after approximately one hour of deliberation.

Elkin's arrest occurred on September 13, 2018, following two days of chatting online with what he thought was a 15-year-old girl. Investigators with the Office of the Attorney General were conducting a proactive investigation online where they posed as underage children. An investigator was contacted by Elkins on September 11, 2018, and the conversation quickly turned to a sexual nature. Throughout the conversation, Elkins spoke with the 15-year-old girl about the sexual acts he would like to perform and made plans to drive to Bryan to meet her.

On September 13, 2018, Elkins drove from Leander to Bryan to meet the child, bringing with him items that were discussed in the chats. He stopped at a local motel to reserve a room prior to the meeting, as they discussed. When Elkins arrived at the meeting location, he was contacted by investigators and taken into custody.

Online Solicitation of a Minor is a third-degree felony, punishable by two to ten years in prison. Elkins was also eligible to receive probation. Additionally, Elkins will be required to register as a sex offender. This case was prosecuted by Assistant District Attorneys Kara Comte and Brian Price with help from Brazos County D.A. Investigator Dennis Thane.

“The defendant made plans to prey on children in Brazos County. Thanks to the proactive work of investigators with the Attorney General’s Office, he was stopped before he ever had the chance.”

—Assistant District Attorneys Kara Comte and Brian Price

