

**This Public Advisory is a publication of the
Nassau County Police Department.**

For further information, call the
Nassau County Police Department
Public Information Office
at 516-573-7138.

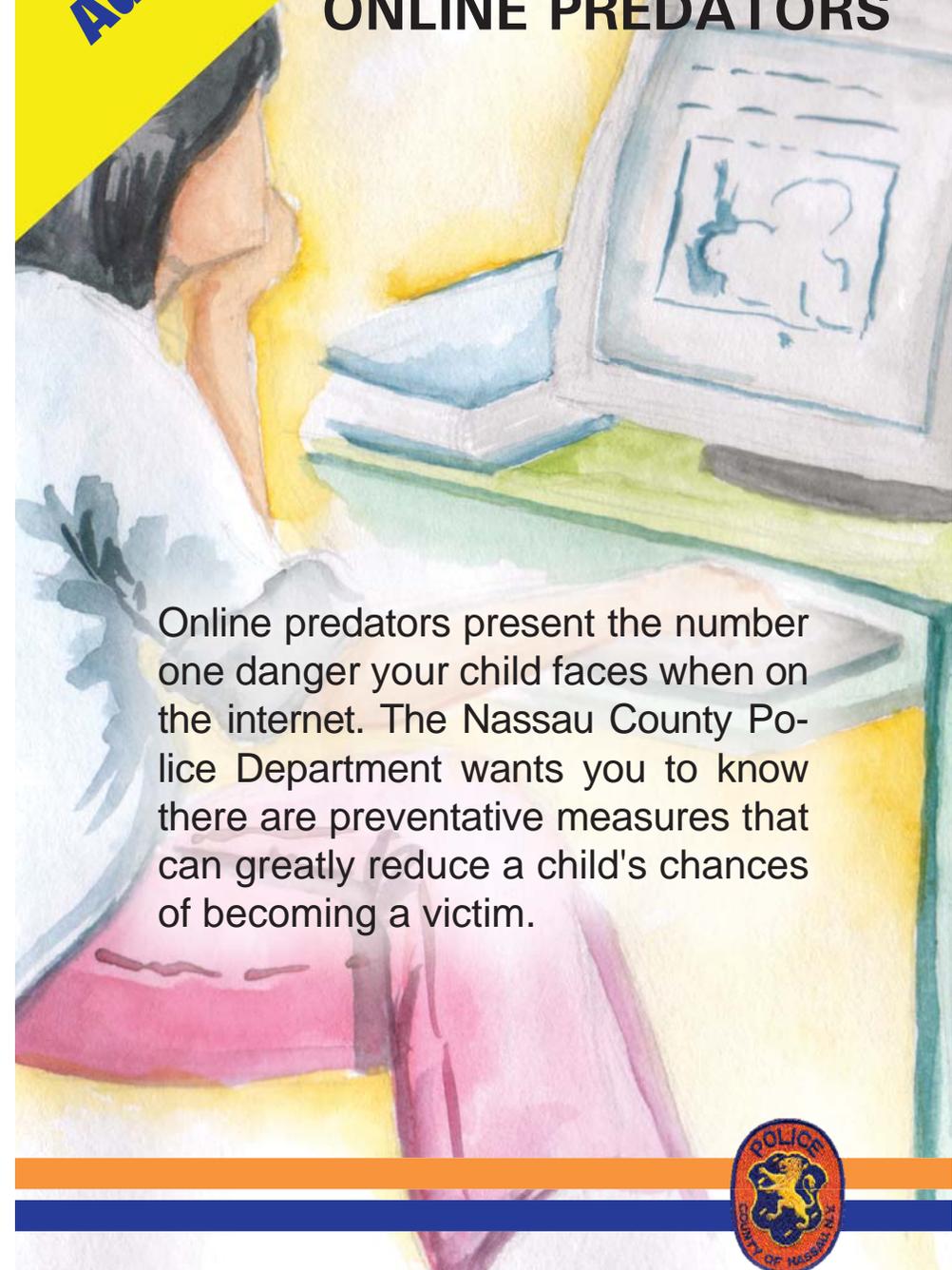
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COUNTY EXECUTIVE



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COMMISSIONER

**Public
Advisory**
0411

PROTECT YOUR CHILD FROM ONLINE PREDATORS



Online predators present the number one danger your child faces when on the internet. The Nassau County Police Department wants you to know there are preventative measures that can greatly reduce a child's chances of becoming a victim.



Children That Online Predators Target

- Children who visit chat rooms.
- Children who share personal information online.
- Children with low self-esteem.
- Both boys and girls are victimized in equal numbers.



Parents Can Prevent Problems

- Warn your child about dangerous people who may try to contact them online.
- Become computer literate and Web savvy. Parents need to learn the lingo of instant messaging: POS is short for "Parents are looking over my shoulder" and LMIRL stands for "Let's meet in real life."
- Use parental controls provided by the service provider or blocking software.
- Do not allow a child to have a computer in his or her bedroom. Keep it in a public place in the house.
- Report suspicious activity to the Internet Service Provider, and local and federal authorities.



- Monitor chat room usage.
- Do not allow your child to use a screen name profile.
- Do not allow your child to meet someone they have connected with online.
- Forbid your child from

giving out personal information online.

Warning Signs

- Your child turns the computer off or changes the screen on the monitor when you walk into the room.
- Your child spends large amounts of time online.
- Your child is online late at night.

Warning Signs *(continued)*

- There is pornography on the computer.
- Your child receives phone calls from people you do not know.
- Your child is making phone calls to people you do not know.
- Your child withdraws from the family. Predators try to separate the child from the family by honing in on family problems.
- Your child is using an online account belonging to someone else. Sex offenders provide computer accounts for communications with them.

If An Online Predator Approaches Your Child

- Write down as much information as possible—screen name or e-mail address of the person who contacted the child, URL of the chat room and the date and time of contact.
- Report the incident to the Nassau County Police Department.

Nassau County Police Department

Emergencies **911**

LOCAL PRECINCTS:

FIRST PRECINCT <i>900 Merrick Road, Baldwin, N.Y. 11510</i>	516-573-6100
SECOND PRECINCT <i>7700 Jericho Turnpike, Woodbury, N.Y. 11797</i>	516-573-6200
THIRD PRECINCT <i>214 Hillside Avenue, Williston Park, N.Y. 11596</i>	516-573-6300
FOURTH PRECINCT <i>1699 Broadway, Hewlett, N.Y. 11557</i>	516-573-6400
COMMUNITY POLICING CENTER <i>1655 Dutch Broadway, Elmont, N.Y. 11003</i>	516-573-6500
COMMUNITY POLICING CENTER <i>100 Community Drive, Manhasset, N.Y. 11030</i>	516-573-6600
SEVENTH PRECINCT <i>3636 Merrick Road, Seaford, N.Y. 11783</i>	516-573-6700
COMMUNITY POLICING CENTER <i>286 Wantagh Avenue, Levittown, N.Y. 11756</i>	516-573-6800