



*Taking Action*  
to Prevent Crimes Against Children

[www.fbi-sos.org](http://www.fbi-sos.org)

**Welcome** to the Spring 2010 issue of *Safe Online Surfing News*, a newsletter dedicated to highlighting the achievements of participants and those who support the FBI-SOS Internet Challenge

**Inside this issue:**

- Sexting Snapshot: Definition, Consequences, and Tips for Teens **2**
- FBI Citizens' Academy Alumni Associations Spread the Word about FBI-SOS **3**
- FBI Field Office Outreach Results **3**
- Thank You to Our Sponsors **3**
- Get Involved **3**
- New Expanded Version of FBI-SOS Internet Challenge Launches Fall 2010 **4**



# FBI-SOS

## Safe Online Surfing News

A resource for teachers, school administrators and members of the FBI community who are working to keep students safe online

Spring 2010

### Students Taught by Peer Educators Win National FBI-SOS Trophy



*Peer educators and top scoring North Lake Middle School students with technology teacher Dan Bakker, John Starr, representing NCMEC, and SSA Kevin Saito from Seattle*

Under the direction of teacher Kathy Hahn, members of Family Career and Community Leaders of America (FCCLA) at Lake Stevens High School visited middle schools in Everett, WA outside Seattle and delivered original internet safety lessons featuring the FBI-SOS program. The middle school students listened attentively as the high school students taught them about predator tactics, privacy settings on social networking sites, and chat room etiquette. Thanks to these peer led classes, North Lake Middle School clinched the National FBI-SOS Winner title for the third time this past December.

Lake Stevens High School students have been teaching internet safety in local middle schools for the last three years. As a testament to the effectiveness of this method, Everett-area middle schools including North Lake, Lake Stevens, and Cavelero Mid-High, have won a total of nine FBI-SOS National Trophies to date.

Because peer education has proven to be a valuable tool in raising students' awareness of internet safety, we are inviting high school groups across the country to replicate the FBI-SOS peer education model that began in Washington. Any high school group such as FCCLA, Key Club, NHS, DECA, or Interact can adopt the FBI-SOS program as a community service project and, under the supervision of a faculty advisor, visit middle schools to teach internet safety lessons to prepare students for the FBI-SOS Internet Challenge.



**Social mapping applications on phones allow people to pinpoint your exact location. Use this feature wisely and never share your whereabouts with people who you've met online.**

## Sexting Snapshot: Definition, Consequences, and Tips for Teens



**“Kids “sext” to show off, to entice someone, to show interest in someone, or to prove commitment.”**

22% of teen girls and 20% of teen boys have sent nude or semi-nude photos of themselves

1 QWERTY 2 ABC 3 DEF  
4 GHI 5 JKL 6 MNO  
7 PQRS 8 TUV 9 WXYZ  
\* 0 + #

According to a 2009 poll conducted by CosmoGirl/National Campaign to Prevent Teen Pregnancy

### What Is “Sexting?”

When people take sexually revealing pictures of themselves and send them as text message attachments, it's called "sexting." And while experts differ on statistics, a recent study conducted by Pew Internet & American Life Project confirms sexting is a teen reality that's here to stay. Kids "sext" to show off, to entice someone, to show interest in someone, or to prove commitment. The problem with that, is that the moment the relationship ends (and most of them do) someone is in possession of a highly compromising image that can be easily posted on a social networking site or sent around via email or text.

There have been some high profile cases of sexting -- including Tiger Woods' alleged mistresses, High School Musical star Vanessa Hudgens, who sent a nude picture to her co-star/boyfriend, Zac Efron, that ended up all over the Internet and made headlines. And in July 2008, Cincinnati teen Jesse Logan committed suicide after a nude photo she'd sent to a boyfriend was circulated widely around her high school, resulting in harassment from her classmates.

### Why It Matters

In a technology world where anything can be copied, sent, posted, and seen by huge audiences, there's no such thing as being able to control images. Even if a photo was taken and sent as a token of love, the intention doesn't matter -- the technology makes it possible for everyone to see your child's most intimate self. And in the hands of teenagers, when revealing photos are made public the subject almost always becomes the object of ridicule and name calling. Furthermore, sending sexual images to minors is against the law, and some states have begun prosecuting kids for child pornography or felony obscenity.

Fortunately, networks with large teen audiences -- MTV, for example -- are using their platforms to warn teens against the dangers of sexting. And the website That's

Not Cool uses teen-speak to help resist cyber peer pressure. Hopefully, these messages will get through.

### Tips to Share with Teens

- Remind them that once an image is sent, it can never be retrieved -- and they will lose control of it. Ask teens how they would feel if their teachers, parents, or the entire school saw the picture, because it happens all the time.
- Talk about pressures to send revealing photos. Let teens know that they may be pushed or dared into sending something. Tell them that no matter how big the social pressure is, the potential social humiliation will be hundreds of times worse.
- Make it clear that the buck stops with them. If someone sends them a photo, have them delete it immediately. Better to be part of the solution than the problem. Besides, if they do send it on, they're distributing pornography -- and that's against the law.
- Have students go to [ThatsNotCool.com](http://ThatsNotCool.com) (and you should go yourself). It's a fabulous site that gives kids the language and support to take texting and cell phone power back into their own hands.



Adapted from “Talking About “Sexting”” by Common Sense Media. Common Sense Media is a national nonprofit, nonpartisan organization that gives parents and educators tools to help create positive experiences for kids in today's too much, too soon culture. Their free resources can be found at [www.commonsense.org](http://www.commonsense.org).



**“Sexting” has many consequences. Sexy pictures can get you into trouble with the law. If you are underage, they may be considered child pornography, a serious crime.**

## FBI Citizens' Academy Alumni Associations Spread the Word about FBI-SOS

Across the country, FBI Citizens' Academy Alumni Associations (FBICAAA) are creating safer communities by adopting the FBI-SOS Internet Challenge as a community service project. FBICAAs are working to increase the number of middle schools implementing and benefiting from the free online safety program.



Knoxville FBICAAA members at the FBI-SOS presentation delivered by Daryl Hulce, FBI-SOS Program Administrator

The FBICAAA in Knoxville called a special meeting to introduce members to the FBI-SOS Internet Challenge. Daryl Hulce, FBI-SOS Program Administrator from Nova Southeastern University, and John Starr, a representative from FBI headquarters,

presented the FBI-SOS Internet Challenge to the group and discussed ways to promote the program in and around Knoxville. The alumni group was quick to adopt the program, form a committee and identify three schools they wanted to get on board before the end of the school year.

Adopting the FBI-SOS Internet Challenge is an ideal project for most alumni groups because it is an initiative from FBI headquarters and directly helps the FBI Innocent Images team at the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children. In most cases, the alumni group will work directly with the FBI-SOS administrators without having to receive clearance from the Community Outreach Specialist for each step. It truly is in the spirit and mission of the Citizen's Academy.

### FBICAAA Tips for Getting Started

- Visit your children's schools and request they implement the program and/or address the PTA
- Conduct a mailing to schools in your area
- Host a meeting for technology teachers and/or middle school principals. Invite Daryl Hulce, FBI-SOS Program Administrator, to present.
- Create a PSA with local media

## FBI Field Office Outreach Results

Thanks to efforts of FBI Agents, Community Outreach Specialists and FBI Citizens' Academy Alumni Associations all across the country – more and more students are learning how to stay safe online. The offices listed to the right have earned a place on the *FBI-SOS Field Office Achievement List* for the number of schools that have participated in the program from their divisions. Thanks to everyone who is working to keep children safe from predators.



**Protect passwords. Do not give out online passwords and do not click on "remember me" settings on public computers, like at school or at the library.**

## Thank You to Our Sponsors

Through generous donations of time, money, and resources, the following sponsors have helped us in our mission to educate our children about the dangers of internet predators:

- ◆ The Fischler School of Education and Human Services at Nova Southeastern University
- ◆ Miami FBI Office, Crimes Against Children Unit
- ◆ Time Warner Telecom
- ◆ Miami Dolphins
- ◆ The Enlightenment Foundation
- ◆ Common Knowledge Scholarship Foundation
- ◆ Patrice Krupa

## Get Involved!

### 1. Implement the Program

Log on to [www.fbi-sos.org](http://www.fbi-sos.org) and register your school!

### 2. Become a Sponsor

By sponsoring a Scavenger Hunt page, tens of thousands of students will be directed to your website to pick up an internet safety tip.

### 3. Help Spread the Word

Visit schools in your area and tell teachers and administrators how they can participate. Forward potential sponsors to [hulce@cksf.org](mailto:hulce@cksf.org) or contact us for additional ideas.

**“Adopting the FBI-SOS Internet Challenge is an ideal project for most alumni groups”**



## FBI Field Office Achievement List

SOS Champions  
(50+ schools)  
**Miami**

SOS Crusaders  
(20-49 schools)  
**Minneapolis**  
**Philadelphia**  
**Cleveland**

SOS Promoters  
(10-19 schools)  
**New Haven**  
**Sacramento**  
**Seattle**  
**Tampa**  
**Knoxville**  
**Los Angeles**

SOS Advocates  
(5-9 schools)  
**Jacksonville**  
**Richmond**  
**San Francisco**  
**Charlotte**  
**Denver**  
**Milwaukee**  
**New York**  
**Albuquerque**  
**Detroit**



**FBI-SOS**

[www.fbi-sos.org](http://www.fbi-sos.org)

FBI-SOS  
P.O. Box 290361  
Davie, FL 33329

Questions or Comments?

**Contact Us**  
Phone: 954-262-8553  
Email: [hulce@cksf.org](mailto:hulce@cksf.org)  
Website: [www.fbi-sos.org](http://www.fbi-sos.org)

Daryl Hulce  
**Program Administrator**

Joanne Santivasci  
**Program Coordinator**



Taking action to prevent crimes against children



## Photo Gallery



1. Miami's COS Jeff Green and Special Agent George Nau pose with students and staff at Herbert A. Ammons Middle School in Miami, FL, winners of the October 2009 FBI-SOS Internet Challenge 2. FBI representatives award students, technology teacher Kirk Bundy, and Principal George Knights at Newhart Middle School, the November 2009 winning school 3. Special Agent George Nau addresses students on the morning announcements at Herbert A. Ammons Middle School 4. John Starr, Management & Program Analyst, FBI IINI Unit/Cyber Division, and Kevin Saito, Supervisory Special Agent in Seattle, award top scoring students from the December 2009 winning school, North Lake Middle 5. SSA Kevin Saito congratulates Principal Gary Taber at North Lake Middle

## New Expanded Version of FBI-SOS Internet Challenge Launches Fall 2010

The demand for internet safety education has increased since the debut of the FBI-SOS Internet Challenge in 2005. Computer and cell phone technology has advanced, online predators use more tactics to lure victims, and issues such as cyberbullying have risen to the forefront of internet safety education. Because of these changes, the FBI-SOS program has received many requests from teachers, administrators, government officials, and parents who would like to see a program that teaches grade-specific internet safety lessons and beginning September 2010, that is exactly what the FBI-SOS program will do.

The format of the FBI-SOS Internet Challenge will remain the same, online Pre-Quiz, Scavenger Hunt, and Post-Quiz, however; students in 5<sup>th</sup> through 8<sup>th</sup> grades will all see different content. Basic concepts such as internet and cell phone safety, online etiquette, and copyright and plagiarism issues will be addressed at all levels but students will see new information in each grade so they can build upon their prior knowledge.

Daryl Hulce, FBI-SOS Program Administrator at Nova Southeastern University, is certain these

changes will have a positive impact on students, "By breaking out the program by grade, we can deliver specific age-appropriate information to students and it will be reinforced year after year through new content and quiz questions." The program will eventually span from 3<sup>rd</sup> through 10<sup>th</sup> grade.

These changes will also level the playing field for schools vying for the FBI-SOS National Trophy. Starting in September 2010, students will only compete against students in their same grade. There will be four National FBI-SOS Trophies awarded each month, one for the top scoring group of 5<sup>th</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, and 8<sup>th</sup> grade students.

As the FBI-SOS Internet Challenge expands, FBI headquarters will assume a larger part of the program administration. They will work to support COSs and FBICAAAs who are promoting the program in their regions. These changes will be explained in more detail at the 2010 FBINCAAA Leadership and FBI COS In-Service Training Conferences in June. In line with this year's conference theme, "FBINCAAA & FBI: Partners for a Safer Community," attendees will be encouraged to adopt the FBI-SOS program as one of their initiatives.