

EXHIBIT A



Iowa Department of Public Safety
215 East 7th Street
Des Moines, Iowa 50319
www.dps.state.ia.us



For immediate release:
January 28, 2016

Iowa DCI Executing Search Warrants at Midwest Academy

KEOKUK, Iowa – The Iowa Department of Public Safety's (DPS) Iowa Division of Criminal Investigation (DCI) Major Crime Unit (MCU), Special Enforcement Operations Bureau (SEOB), Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force (ICAC), Iowa DCI Crime Lab Crime Scene Team, State Fire Marshal Division (SFM), Iowa State Patrol (ISP) Division of Intelligence and Fusion Center (DOI), along with the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the Lee County Sheriff's Office are executing two search warrants at locations in Keokuk today.

The search warrants stem from an investigation of alleged sexual abuse involving a staff member of the Midwest Academy and a former student of the academy.

The first search warrant is being executed at the Midwest Academy campus, located at 2416 340th Street, in Keokuk. The Midwest Academy is a therapeutic boarding school that has students enrolled from around the country and the world.

A second search warrant is being executed at a second location also affiliated with the Midwest Academy at 2818 Hwy. 218, in Montrose.

No further information will be released at this time. A press release will be sent out notifying media IF a press conference will be held.

Media staging area: Media are asked to stage along 340th Street outside of the entrance to the Midwest Academy campus. Law enforcement will be guarding the entrance and no access will be granted to the academy for media.

Media Contacts:

Iowa DCI Special Agent in Charge Richard Rahn at (563) 370-5109.

Iowa DCI Public Information Officer Alex Murphy at (515) 443-3014

Note: A criminal charge is merely an accusation and a defendant is presumed innocent until proven guilty.



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