



ILLINOIS STATE POLICE

NEWS RELEASE

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ILLINOIS STATE POLICE INVESTIGATION LEADS TO ARREST OF WATSEKA MAN FOR POSSESSION OF CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE MATERIAL

WATSEKA – An Illinois State Police (ISP) investigation led to the arrest of 22-year-old Manuel Perez of Watseka, Illinois for possession of child sexual abuse material.

After receiving a cyber tip from the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children (NCMEC), ISP conducted an investigation into possession of child sexual abuse material, which led to an arrest warrant for Perez.

On November 18, 2024, officers took Perez into custody and he is being held pending an arraignment hearing in Iroquois County, Illinois. Perez is charged with five counts of Possession of Child Pornography (Class 2 Felony).

This investigation is a collaborative effort between the Illinois Attorney General’s Office Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force, the Iroquois County Sheriff’s Office, the Watseka Police Department, the Iroquois County State’s Attorney’s Office, and ISP.

Anonymous tips of child sexual abuse material can also be reported through the NCMEC CyberTipline at www.cybertipline.com. To keep kids safe online, learn more at: <https://illinoisattorneygeneral.gov/onlinesafe/>; www.cybertipline.org ; For resources for survivors of sexual abuse visit: <https://www.missingkids.org/gethelpnow/csam-resources> .



Manuel Perez (M/22)

The charges are not evidence against the defendant, and the defendant is presumed innocent until proven guilty beyond a reasonable doubt in a court of law.

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