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## DA Alerts Users of 'Computer Cop' Software about Potential Security Issues

The San Diego County District Attorney's Office is one of more than 240 law enforcement agencies that have distributed internet monitoring software to help protect San Diego County children from becoming victims of online predators and bullying. The 'Computer Cop' software allows parents to quickly scan photos, videos, emails, and chat messages on their children's computers, looking for inappropriate content. The District Attorney's Office provided the software free of charge, in part as a response to an increase in prosecutions of internet predators.

Recent reports have pointed out potential privacy issues with the software. The issues can be easily corrected and the DA's Office is suggesting users of Computer Cop software do the following to protect their online privacy by <u>not using the key stroke logging feature.</u> To avoid or turn off the key stroke logging feature:

Click on the icon that says "Chat/Email," and simply <u>do not agree to the terms of service</u> regarding privacy to install "Key Alert."

The use of a keystroke cap use of this machine. Please	oture tool is considered use check your state laws for all Guardian must advise and will be able to read	unlawful if the users of this of or age limitation. Most state all the individuals that use Chat/Email and keystroke	es do not require child con this computer, if not a mino conversations. This prod	tion of privacy regarding the sent if the child is under 18 rr, that they will be monitoring
Please note, that by defaul email are being monitored				ach user that their chat and

If you have already agreed to install "Key Alert" previously, click "Chat/Email" button to the right, and click on "Uninstall Key Alert" to remove it from your system. (Mac users, this appears at the bottom of your screen.)

Finally, when not using Computer Cop software, it is advised that you remove the disc from the computer.

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Every year children are starting to use the Internet and computers at a younger and younger age. Because children are often trusting, naive, curious, and eager for attention and affection predators will target them online in order to take advantage of them. According to the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children (NCMEC), less than 5% of parents are aware of online sexual exploitation and even fewer think their child is at risk. It is important for parents, law enforcement and society as a whole to know of the dangers children face on the Internet and how to reduce the risks of being victimized.