Disney World employees among 16 men arrested in child pornography sting

By Jami Ganz , June 17, 2020

More than a dozen men in central Florida, including two Walt Disney World employees, have been arrested as part of a sting operation that targeted child pornography distributors.

Justin Hazan, 32, and roommate Arlandres Sims, 36, were among the 16 men arrested by the Polk County Sheriff’s Office and charged with a collective 1,409 felonies for possession and distribution of child pornography, Sheriff Grady Judd announced during Tuesday’s press conference. The sting was known as “Operation Guardians of Innocence V.”

Hazan, who was charged with 15 counts of possession of child pornography, operated the Millennium Falcon: Smuggler’s Run ride at Disney’s Hollywood Studios.

Sims, who worked as a food runner at Animal Kingdom Resort, was charged with 25 counts of possession of child pornography.

“Every time one of these folks receives, downloads, uploads the victim, a child victim who’s being sexually battered or [is] in a provocative position, that child is victimized once again,” Judd said.

Many of the victims involved in the operation were under a year old at the time they were “being attacked or sexually attacked in video or in photographs,” Judd said.

“It shows you how deviant [the suspects] are,” he continued.

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