

Retired CHP officer arrested for alleged sexual offense dealing with minors

By

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A retired California Highway Patrol officer who last worked in the Torrance area allegedly created a phony user profile on a social networking site to contact children, prosecutors said today.

Edward John Hofer, 53, was arrested Monday morning on a warrant charging him with two counts each of sending harmful matter to a minor, possession of child pornography and contact with a minor for sexual offense.

According to voter records, Hofer lives in Burbank.

Hofer allegedly identified himself as a teenage girl on the site, Tagged.com, and met an 11-year-old boy and a 15-year-old girl.

He is scheduled to be arraigned as early as Tuesday in Superior Court in downtown Los Angeles.

Prosecutors said Hofer retired from the CHP in 2012.