



McGREGOR W. SCOTT

*United States Attorney
Eastern District of California*

NEWS RELEASE

Sacramento
501 I Street, Suite 10-100
Sacramento, CA 95814
Tel 916/554-2700
TTY 916/554-2877

Fresno
2500 Tulare Street, Suite 4401
Fresno, CA 93721
Tel 559/497-4000
TTY 559/497-4500

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

February 6, 2008

Docket #: 2:08-CR-00054-FCD

Contact: Michelle Rodriguez
916/554-2773

<http://www.usdoj.gov/usao/cae>

MICHIGAN WOMAN CHARGED WITH USING THE INTERNET TO SOLICIT MURDER

SACRAMENTO—United States Attorney McGregor W. Scott announced today that a federal grand jury sitting in Sacramento had returned an indictment charging ANN MARIE LINSKOTT, 48, of Rockford, Michigan, with three counts of using facilities in interstate commerce with intent to cause the murder of a California resident.

The case was investigated by the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the Butte County Sheriff's Office, and the Oroville Police Department.

According to Assistant United States Attorney Michelle Rodriguez, who is prosecuting the case, the indictment alleges that LINSKOTT used the Internet (including the Web site *craigslist.com* and various e-mail accounts) to communicate murder-for-hire offers in November 2007, to three different individuals living in northern California. According to documents previously filed in the case, LINSKOTT sought to kill the wife of an Oroville man with whom LINSKOTT had a romantic relationship. The indictment alleges that LINSKOTT offered \$5,000 for the murder.

On the three charges, LINSKOTT faces up to 30 years imprisonment, three years of federal supervised release, and an aggregate fine of up to \$750,000. The actual sentence, however, will be determined at the discretion of the court after consideration of the Federal Sentencing Guidelines, which take into account a number of variables and any applicable statutory sentencing factors. LINSKOTT was

arrested on January 24, 2008, in Grand Rapids, Michigan. LINSOTT has been ordered transferred in custody to the Eastern District of California.

The charges are only allegations and the defendant is presumed innocent until and unless proven guilty beyond a reasonable doubt.

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