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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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LA PORTE COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE ARRESTS NON-COMPLIANT SEX OFFENDER

The La Porte County Sheriff's Office has announced the arrest of a non-complaint Sex Offender who was residing in Michigan City. On Tuesday, September 9, 36 year old Michael SOFRANKO was arrested without incident at a residence located in the 500 East block of 11th Street.

In 1998 SOFRANKO had been convicted of class "C" felony Child Molesting in La Porte County Circuit Court. As the result of that conviction, SOFRANKO had been identified as an Offender Against Children and is required to register as a Sex Offender with law enforcement through November 2022. In addition, because he is identified as an Offender Against Children, he has residency restrictions imposed by Indiana Code that prohibit him from living within 1,000 feet of a school, youth program center or a public park.

In late August the Sheriff's Office determined that SOFRANKO was no longer living at his registered address on Superior Street in Michigan City. In addition, he failed to complete his annual registration with the La Porte County Sheriff's Office and was therefore considered non-compliant. On September 9 he was located living in a home on East 11th Street and taken into custody without incident. He was charged with Sex Offender: Failure to Register a Level 5 felony, due to a previous conviction for the same offense in 2013. When located, he was living next door to a licensed day care facility, which he is prohibited from doing as he is an Offender Against Children. He was therefore also charged with Sex Offender Residency Restriction violation, a Level 6 felony.

SOFRANKO is being housed in the La Porte County Jail with a bond set at \$1,500. He is scheduled to appear in La Porte County Superior Court I.

*The charge against the defendant is merely an accusation, and the defendant is presumed innocent until and unless proven guilty

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*** COURT OFFICES ***
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SUPERIOR COURT * MICHIGAN CITY, IN 46360 * OFFICE PHONE: (219) 872-2161