

Hunting: Elmer Ngo

Threat Intelligence: Criminal Analysis

Gustavo Flores
Cyber Threat Hunter

Investigation Target Elmer Ngo
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[The Federal Bureau of Investigation \(FBI\) Sacramento Field Office is seeking to identify potential victims of Elmer Ngo, 28, of Stockton, California.](#) A federal grand jury indicted Ngo, charging him with one count of attempted sexual exploitation of a minor, four counts of attempted coercion and enticement of minors, and one count of possession of child pornography.

According to court documents, Ngo used social media to sexually exploit female minors nationwide. The alleged sexual exploitation included attempting to coerce, entice, and persuade the minors to produce child pornography for Ngo. Contact may have occurred in person or through social media accounts, or any account believed to be used by Ngo. Ngo's aliases include Elmer, Zach, and DODO. Snapchat usernames include: greynestle2020 (DODO), treypo2020, monster_hun7503, e1m3r12.

THE HUNT

Pattern Recognition Identifying patterns among research subjects to construct criminal profiles

Fuzzing Black Box software testing finding implementation bugs using malformed/semi-malformed data injection in an automated fashion

Google Dorking Using operators such as OR, &, +, () to provide specific search results

FBI Structured Data Criminal Alias: Elmer, Zach, and DODO
Online usernames: greynestle2020 (DODO), treypo2020, monster_hun7503, e1m3r12

ACTION

Pattern Recognition Consistently searched for web results that contained keywords in the investigation, namely Elmer's username *e1m3r12*.

Fuzzing As opposed to automated, I manually used this method to create countless variations that the criminal may use. I used varieties of username *e1m3r12*.

Replaced 12 at the end with years in descending order.

e1m3r12 → *e1m3r23* for 2023

e1m3r12 → *e1m3r22* for 2022

e1m3r12 → *e1m3r21* for 2021

...

Achieved results with *e1m3r9*.

Google Dorking Used quotes in engine search to target evidence. "*e1m3r9*"

RECAP

Notified and provided more evidence to the FBI.

Exploited online presence and criminal patterns. Offered a comprehensive view of additional digital personas and activities. Pivotal for unearthing evidence and identifying potential victims who may not come forward voluntarily.

IMPROVEMENTS

Under authorization for continued investigation, here are some things to infer from new information:

Digital Footprint Analysis More resources for cross-referencing and accuracy

Geotagging and IP Addresses Finding locations and discovering new devices of criminal accounts. Internet access shows metadata and can produce evidence that may involve messages with unknown criminals who may be co-conspirators. Supplies possible dates and security footage for a timeline of events.

Victim Identification Leads strengthen tracking victims and the case against perpetrators

CONTACT

Gustavo Flores
Shellshock9001@proton.me