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Convict indicted in online sex operation

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A man already convicted in state and federal courts of promoting prostitution ran a sex-trafficking operation that advertised the services of adult and underage females on Craigslist, according to a federal grand jury indictment unsealed this week.

The indictment returned on May 20 charges Rodney King with sex-trafficking, attempted sex-trafficking, sex-trafficking of a minor and conspiracy. It charges Sharon-Mae Nishimura, who federal authorities identified as King's secretary and accounts coordinator, with the same crimes. Nishimura told authorities she also worked for King as a prostitute.

The charges involve the prostitution activity of three adult and two minor females from April 2006 to December 2007, according to the indictment.

For much of 2007, King and Nishimura ran the operation from the second-floor rental space above a business near Honolulu Airport, according to other court records. The minor females were 16 when they worked as prostitutes for King.

U.S. District Judge Alan Kay sentenced King in 1999 to 30 months in prison followed by three years' supervised release after he pleaded guilty to promoting prostitution of a minor.

The next year, Circuit Judge Richard Perkins sentenced King to five years' probation following his guilty pleas to three counts of promoting prostitution in the second degree and 10 years in prison for violating his probation for an earlier firearm conviction. Perkins allowed King to serve his state and federal prison terms at the same time.

King started serving his three years of federal supervised release in April 2006.

The FBI arrested him in May last year for the activities described in last month's indictment.

That same month Kay resentenced King to another two years in prison in May last year for violating the terms of his supervised release.

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