

California man indicted in 'botnet' case

February 11 2006

A California man was indicted Friday for allegedly creating a "botnet" that used university computer systems and disrupted information technology at a Seattle hospital.

Christopher Maxwell, 20, of Vacaville, Calif., was charged by a federal grand jury in Seattle with one count each of conspiracy to commit computer fraud and conspiracy to damage a protected computer.

The botnet allegedly overwhelmed and disrupted computer service at Seattle's Northwest Hospital, the U.S. Attorney's office said at a news conference.

The charges stem from a January 2005 computer infection that allegedly netted Maxwell and his co-conspirators \$100,000 paid by companies that had their adware secretly installed on personal computers.

The alleged conspiracy involved compromising the security of high-powered computers at the University of Michigan, Cal State Northridge and UCLA.

Copyright 2006 by United Press International

Citation: California man indicted in 'botnet' case (2006, February 11) retrieved 1 May 2024 from <https://phys.org/news/2006-02-california-indicted-botnet-case.html>

This document is subject to copyright. Apart from any fair dealing for the purpose of private study or research, no part may be reproduced without the written permission. The content is provided for information purposes only.