

Suspected hacker held over Kiss frontman web attack

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Musician Gene Simmons arrives at the Hollywood Palladium, California, in August 2011. A 24-year-old man allegedly linked to the Anonymous "hactivist" group was arrested Tuesday over a cyber attack on a website run by the frontman of heavy rock group Kiss, the FBI said.

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Kevin George Poe, from the northeastern US state of Connecticut, is charged with waging a [denial of service attack](#) on GeneSimmons.com, said the [Federal Bureau of Investigation](#) (FBI) office in Los Angeles, where he is wanted.

Poe -- who used the screen name spydr101 -- made an initial appearance

in court in Hartford, Connecticut, where a judge ordered him released on a \$10,000 bond, pending his appearance in a federal court in Los Angeles.

He faces up to 15 years in jail if convicted over the attack on Simmons, who is famous for the colorful make-up and costumes worn by Kiss, for whom he plays bass and sings.

A [federal grand jury](#) in Los Angeles returned an indictment last week that accused Poe of being linked with the Anonymous group, a loosely-associated international group that has been involved in scores of hacking exploits.

Specifically he was charged on two counts, of conspiracy and unauthorized impairment of a protected computer, over a [cyber attack](#) during a five-day period in October 2010.

In the attack, Poe and other Anonymous-linked hackers allegedly sent tens of thousands of electronic requests designed to overload the computer server and render the website useless.

According to the indictment, Poe used a software tool favored by Anonymous hackers: a Low Orbit Ion Cannon, which can send massive numbers of "packets" or requests in an attempt to overwhelm a target computer.

Online media reports have suggested that Simmons has threatened to sue [Anonymous](#) over the attack on his website. There was no immediate reply from the musician and entrepreneur's publicist for reaction to Tuesday's arrest.

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