

# Doctor caught in TV molest sting gets jail

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CRIME

By Henry K. Lee

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A Piedmont doctor whose 2006 arrest in a police sting was filmed by a television network has been sentenced to two months in jail for attempted child molesting.

Maurice Wolin must register as a sex offender annually for life and will be on probation for three years, Judge Arthur Wick of Sonoma County Superior Court said at a hearing Wednesday.

Wolin, who was then 48, posed online as a 29-year-old man with the screen name "talldreamydoc" and chatted for several days with someone he thought was a 13-year-old girl.

He agreed to meet her in Petaluma for sex and was met instead by an 18-year-old actress from "Dateline NBC," whose cameras rolled as officers arrived, police said.

The sting had been set up by police and NBC, working with an organization called Perverted Justice, whose members pose as young girls and boys on the Internet. Officers arrested 29 people in the joint operation, most of whom pleaded guilty.

Wolin, a cancer researcher, told police he had been "just playing" and hadn't intended to have sex with the girl, according to a transcript provided by his lawyers. But Wolin pleaded no contest to a felony charge in December.

"We hope that the outcome of this case will serve as a deterrent to other Internet child sexual predators who will not know if they are speaking to a child or a police officer when they go online," said District Attorney Stephan Passalacqua.