

## WEST VIRGINIA CODE: §61-8-32

### **§61-8-32. Soliciting, etc. a minor by means other than via computer; soliciting a minor and traveling to engage the minor in prohibited sexual activity; definition of minor; penalties.**

(a) Any person over the age of 18, who by means other than those prohibited by §61-3C-14b of this code, who knowingly solicits, entices, seduces, or lures, or attempts to solicit, entice, seduce or lure, a minor known or believed to be at least four years younger than the person, or a person he or she believes to be such a minor in order to engage in any illegal act proscribed by the provisions of §61-8-1 *et seq.*, §61-8B-1 *et seq.*, §61-8C-1 *et seq.*, or §61-8D-1 *et seq.* of this code, or any felony offense under §60A-4-401 of this code is guilty of a felony and, upon conviction thereof, shall be fined not more than \$5,000 or imprisoned in a state correctional facility not less than two nor more than ten years, or both fined and imprisoned.

(b) Any person who violates the provisions of subsection (a) of this section while outside the physical presence of the minor or person he or she knows or has reason to believe is a minor, who engages in any overt act designed to bring himself or herself into the minor's physical presence with the intent to engage in any sexual activity or conduct with the minor that is prohibited by law, is guilty of a felony and shall be fined not more than \$25,000 or imprisoned in a state correctional facility for a determinate sentence of not less than five nor more than thirty years, or both fined and imprisoned: *Provided*, That subsection (a) of this section shall be deemed a lesser included offense to that created by this subsection.

(c) For purposes of this section, "minor" means a person younger than 18 years of age or a person representing himself or herself to be a minor. Any prosecution, pursuant to this section, relating to a victim that is a person representing himself or herself to be a minor shall be limited to investigations being conducted or overseen by law enforcement officers.