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**LIFE SENTENCE HANDED DOWN IN INTERNATIONAL CRIMINAL  
NETWORK ORGANIZED TO SEXUALLY EXPLOIT CHILDREN**

**Shreveport, La.:** United States Attorney Stephanie A. Finley announced today that Robert Cuff, 49, of Fort Bliss, TX, who pled guilty in December of 2011, to engaging in a child exploitation enterprise, was sentenced to life in prison on July 13, 2012. Parole has been abolished in the federal system. Cuff, a Command Master Chief in the United States Navy, assigned as the senior enlisted advisor to the Joint Task Force North at Fort Bliss, TX at the time of his arrest, joined and participated in the Dreamboard Child Exploitation bulletin board while stationed at Fort Bliss, TX. At sentencing, the Court found that not only had Cuff participated in a child exploitation enterprise, he had also engaged in a pattern of activity involving the sexual exploitation of a 5-year old child.

Jonathan Mayer, 29, of Newport, TN, and Shane Micah Turner, 33, of Roy, Utah, were also sentenced in connection with their participation in the Dreamboard Child Exploitation bulletin board. Each received a sentence of 17 ½ years in prison followed by lifetime supervised release, as a result of both defendants pleading guilty to conspiring to advertise child pornography. The sentences were handed down by U.S. District Judge S. Maurice Hicks.

To date, 42 out of 72 individuals have been convicted for their participation in an international criminal network, known as Dreamboard, which was dedicated to the sexual abuse of children and the creation and dissemination of graphic images and videos of child sexual abuse throughout the world. **The facts surrounding the remaining individuals who have been convicted in this case thus far is attached.**

The charges against these defendants were a result of Operation Delego, an ongoing investigation that was launched in December of 2009 that targeted individuals around the world for their participation in Dreamboard. Dreamboard was a private, members-only, online bulletin board that was created and operated to promote pedophilia and encourage

the sexual abuse of very young children in an environment designed to avoid law enforcement detection. Operation Delego represents the largest prosecution to date in the United States of individuals who participated in an online bulletin board conceived and operated for the sole purpose of promoting child sexual abuse, disseminating child pornography and evading law enforcement.

All 72 of the defendants were charged with conspiring to advertise and distribute child pornography, and 50 of them were also charged with engaging in a child exploitation enterprise. Out of the 72 charged defendants, 55 have been arrested in the United States and abroad. Forty-one individuals have pleaded guilty and one defendant was convicted after a four-day jury trial. Twenty-eight of the 41 individuals who have pleaded guilty for their roles in the conspiracy have been sentenced to prison and have received sentences ranging between 15 and life. Thirteen of the 72 charged individuals remain at large and are known only by their online identities. Efforts to identify and apprehend these individuals continue.

According to court documents and evidence presented at the trial of defendant, John Wyss, aka "Bones," Dreamboard members traded graphic images and videos of adults molesting children 12 years of age or younger, often violently, and collectively created a massive private library of images of child sexual abuse. The international group prized and encouraged the creation of new images and videos of child sexual abuse - numerous Dreamboard members sexually abused children, produced images and videos of the abuse, and shared the images and videos with other members of Dreamboard.

Dreamboard members employed a variety of measures designed to conceal their criminal activity from detection by law enforcement. Members communicated using aliases or "screen names," rather than their actual names. Links to child pornography posted on Dreamboard were required to be encrypted with a password that was shared only with other members. Members accessed the board via proxy servers, which routed internet traffic through other computers so as to disguise a user's actual location and prevent law enforcement from tracing internet activity. Dreamboard members also encouraged the use of encryption programs on their computers, which password-protect computer files to prevent law enforcement from accessing them in the event of a court-authorized search.

Membership was tightly controlled by the administrators of Dreamboard, who required prospective members to upload child pornography portraying children 12 years of age or younger when applying for membership. Once they were given access, members were required continually to upload images of child sexual abuse in order to maintain membership. Members who failed to follow this rule would be expelled from the group.

According to court documents, Dreamboard members were divided into groups based on status and ranking. The highest level of membership was "Super VIP(.)." Individuals who obtained that title had created new images of child pornography by molesting children and shared those images with the board administrators. The next level of membership was "Super VIP," which was comprised of trusted members of the website.

The next level after Super VIP was the “VIP rank.” Individuals in the lowest level of membership were called “Members.” Those in the lower ranks could only access a limited quantity of child pornography on the bulletin board. The higher the rank, the more material was available to the member. Individuals advanced to higher levels of membership by providing child abuse images that the individual had produced, providing a large number of images, or providing images that had never been seen before.

The bulletin board included rules of conduct, printed in English, Russian, Japanese and Spanish. The rules required prospective members to upload material depicting children under the age of 12 engaged in sexually explicit activity. Approved members were required to observe strict posting rules designed to encourage members to disseminate large quantities of child pornography, thwart efforts by law enforcement to identify members of the board, and encourage members to sexually abuse children in order to produce new material for the board. The board rules also required members to organize postings based on the type of content. One particular category was entitled “Super Hardcore.” The rules for that category described in graphic language that the only posts permitted were those involving adults having violent sexual intercourse with “very young kids” who were being subjected to both physical and sexual abuse and were obviously “in distress, and or crying.”

Operation Delego involved extensive international cooperation to identify and apprehend Dreamboard members abroad. Through coordination between ICE; the Department of Justice; Eurojust, the European Union's Judicial Cooperation Unit; and dozens of law enforcement agencies throughout the world, 20 Dreamboard members across five continents and 14 countries have been arrested to date outside the United States, including two of the five lead administrators of the board. Those countries include Canada, Denmark, Ecuador, France, Germany, Guatemala, Hungary, Kenya, the Netherlands, the Philippines, Qatar, Serbia, Sweden and Switzerland. Numerous foreign investigations related to Operation Delego remain ongoing. The location and arrest of Dreamboard members abroad have led to the capture and investigation of other global targets.

Evidence obtained during the operation revealed that at least 38 children across the world were suffering sexual abuse at the hands of the members of the group. Efforts by federal, state, local and international law enforcement to locate and identify the victims of sexual abuse and exploitation by Dreamboard members are ongoing.

Operation Delego is a spinoff investigation from leads developed through “Operation Nest Egg,” the prosecution of another online group dedicated to the sharing and dissemination of child pornography. Operation Nest Egg was a spinoff investigation developed from leads related to another international investigation, “Operation Joint Hammer,” which targeted transnational rings of child pornography trafficking.

United States Attorney Stephanie A. Finley stated, “These defendants, and people like them, who advertise, participate, distribute or exploit children to access child pornography work hard to evade law enforcement and disguise what they are doing.

Their sole purpose is to view children hurting for their own sexual satisfaction. We agree with the Court's statement that this defendant was much like a Dr. Jeckle and Mr. Hyde; to those who knew him in the military, he appeared to be an outstanding soldier, but as the Judge stated, this defendant had a dark side involving the advertising of child pornography and the rape of a young child.

We want people who get engulfed in this type of disturbing behavior to know that they will face serious consequences for their actions. Our office will continue to vigorously prosecute this type of criminal activity to the fullest extent of the law. We want the community to know that the U.S. Attorney's Office and the Department of Justice, along with our federal, state and local partners, are committed to protecting children from these vile criminals."

Special Agent in Charge of HSI New Orleans, Raymond R. Parmer Jr., stated, "Cuff and the other conspirators of the nightmare called Dreamboard mistakenly believed that they could commit unspeakable crimes against children and evade detection by law enforcement. Criminals with this kind of depravity in mind should know that we are ever vigilant. For every tactic taken to evade law enforcement, we will adapt our strategies to find them and prosecute them to the fullest extent of the law."

The case is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney John Luke Walker of the Western District of Louisiana and Trial Attorneys Keith Becker and Anitha Ibrahim of the Child Exploitation and Obscenity Section (CEOS) of the Justice Department's Criminal Division. The Criminal Division's Office of International Affairs provided substantial assistance. The investigation was conducted by ICE-Homeland Security Investigations, the Child Exploitation Section of ICE's Cyber Crimes Center, CEOS, CEOS's High Technology Investigative Unit and 35 ICE offices in the United States and 11 ICE attaches offices in 13 countries around the world, with assistance provided by numerous local and international law enforcement agencies across the United States and throughout the world.

The investigation was part of Operation Predator, a nationwide ICE initiative to identify, investigate and arrest those who prey on children, including human traffickers, international sex tourists, Internet pornographers and foreign-national predators whose crimes make them deportable.

**ICE encourages the public to report suspected child predators and any suspicious activity through its toll-free hotline at 1-866-DHS-2ICE. This hotline is staffed around the clock by investigators.**

<b>Defendant</b>	<b>Guilty Plea Date</b>	<b>Charges To Which Defendant Pled Guilty</b>
Edward Oedewaldt, aka twelvish aka Legend	01/19/12	Engaging in a Child Exploitation Enterprise Possession of Child Pornography <b>Sentencing Date: 08/01/12</b>
Robert Sprague, aka Jailbird	01/31/12	Engaging in a Child Exploitation Enterprise <b>Sentencing Date: 08/14/12</b>
David Lindsay, aka Slipnslide	02/16/12	Engaging in a Child Exploitation Enterprise <b>Sentencing Date: 08/01/12</b>
Henry Hand, aka dfx	02/15/12	Engaging in a Child Exploitation Enterprise <b>Sentencing Date: 08/14/12</b>
Matthew McKee, aka fantom aka fantomg	12/02/11	Engaging in a Child Exploitation Enterprise <b>Sentencing Date: 08/14/12</b>
Todd Stumpf, aka Winkee	03/02/12	Engaging in a Child Exploitation Enterprise <b>Sentencing Date: 08/14/12</b>
Scott Lewandowski, aka Prjb aka Koan	04/13/12	Conspiracy to Advertise the Distribution of Child Pornography <b>Sentencing Date: 08/02/12</b>
Stephen Fairbanks, aka Zapper aka JMagic	04/12/12	Conspiracy to Advertise the Distribution of Child Pornography <b>Sentencing Date: 08/02/12</b>
Jason Simon, aka Templar aka Shuffle	04/12/12	Conspiracy to Advertise the Distribution of Child Pornography <b>Sentencing Date: 08/02/12</b>
Timothy Stone, aka Kitsu	04/12/12	Conspiracy to Advertise the Distribution of Child Pornography <b>Sentencing Date: 08/02/12</b>
Steven Perez, aka PataPata	01/05/12	Conspiracy to Advertise the Distribution of Child Pornography <b>Sentencing Date: 08/14/12</b>
Scott Spiegel, aka Zaxx aka Zaxxter	04/13/12	Conspiracy to Advertise the Distribution of Child Pornography <b>Sentencing Date: 08/02/12</b>
Jerrold Wayne Wright, aka TheShadow	10/17/11	Conspiracy to Advertise the Distribution of Child Pornography <b>Sentencing Date: 08/01/12</b>
<b>Defendant</b>	<b>Sentencing Date</b>	<b>Sentencing Details</b>
Desmond Meredith, aka Beast	04/13/12	15 Years in Prison/Lifetime Supervised Release Conspiracy to Advertise the Distribution of Child Pornography

Timothy Gentry, aka Johnny_5_is_@alive	05/10/11	25 Years in Prison/Lifetime Supervised Release Engaging in a Child Exploitation Enterprise
Larry Ridley, aka Athf	10/26/11	20 Years in Prison/Lifetime Supervised Release Engaging in a Child Exploitation Enterprise
Daniel Deschenes, aka Catman	05/04/12	260 Months in Prison/Lifetime Supervised Release Engaging in a Child Exploitation Enterprise
Michael Biggs, aka tommyleejones	05/31/11	20 Years in Prison/Lifetime Supervised Release Engaging in a Child Exploitation Enterprise
Micheal Thompson, aka SamSneed	09/13/11	20 Years in Prison/Lifetime Supervised Release Engaging in a Child Exploitation Enterprise
Charles Christian, aka NLN	07/14/11	265 Months in Prison/Lifetime Supervised Release Engaging in a Child Exploitation Enterprise
Michael Childs, aka Michy99	06/22/11	30 Years in Prison/Lifetime Supervised Release Engaging in a Child Exploitation Enterprise
William Barton, aka blackbart2010	01/05/12	327 Months in Prison/Lifetime Supervised Release Engaging in a Child Exploitation Enterprise
Christopher James Luke, aka Dank0420	10/05/11	20 Years in Prison/Lifetime Supervised Release Engaging in a Child Exploitation Enterprise
Stephen Clinton Kinney, aka SocratesWasAGeek	10/14/11	293 Months in Prison/Lifetime Supervised Release Engaging in a Child Exploitation Enterprise
Gary Schneider, aka Mytink	01/12/12	20 Years in Prison/Lifetime Supervised Release Engaging in a Child Exploitation Enterprise
Richard Chandler, aka almeda	04/05/12	35 Years in Prison/Lifetime Supervised Release Engaging in a Child Exploitation Enterprise
Charles Pyeatte, aka Daddy-O	09/13/11	327 Months in Prison/Lifetime Supervised Release Engaging in a Child Exploitation Enterprise
Rush Frank Blankenship, aka 14yrsmax	12/01/11	20 Years in Prison/Lifetime Supervised Release Engaging in a Child Exploitation Enterprise
David Michael Whitten, aka davie	10/05/11	35 Years in Prison/Lifetime Supervised Release Engaging in a Child Exploitation Enterprise
Jamil Lamar Mosley, aka clubkidsforever	01/17/12	20 Years in Prison/Lifetime Supervised Release Engaging in a Child Exploitation Enterprise
Anthony Paul Sowders, aka ChanChadwick	01/05/12	27 Years in Prison/Lifetime Supervised Release Engaging in a Child Exploitation Enterprise
Benet Schmidt, aka Brazthumper	04/05/12	37 Years in Prison/Lifetime Supervised Release Engaging in a Child Exploitation Enterprise
Jeffrey J. Rodriguez, aka HowardHughes	01/17/12	17 ½ Years in Prison/Lifetime Supervised Release Conspiracy to Advertise the Distribution of Child Pornography

Randall Dech, aka Rudy	03/23/12	17 ½ Years in Prison/Lifetime Supervised Release Conspiracy to Advertise the Distribution of Child Pornography
Joseph Matthew Wheeler, aka Wildman	04/12/12	17 ½ Years in Prison/Lifetime Supervised Release Conspiracy to Advertise the Distribution of Child Pornography
Eric Myszke-Francis, aka Samsackk	01/12/12	17 ½ Years in Prison/Lifetime Supervised Release Conspiracy to Advertise the Distribution of Child Pornography
Ivan E. Cerda, aka Mokoloko69	04/05/12	262 Months in Prison/Lifetime Supervised Release Conspiracy to Advertise the Distribution of Child Pornography
Milton Perry, aka Camy aka Blondie aka Lorwyn	04/12/12	20 Years in Prison/Lifetime Supervised Release Conspiracy to Advertise the Distribution of Child Pornography
<b>Defendant</b>	<b>Trial Conviction</b>	<b>Guilty on the Following Charges</b>
John Wyss, aka Bones	05/17/12	Engaging in a Child Exploitation Enterprise Conspiracy to Advertise Child Pornography Conspiracy to Distribute Child Pornography <b>Sentencing Date: 09/06/12</b>

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