

NEWS RELEASE



OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA San Diego, California

***United States Attorney
Karen P. Hewitt***

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For Immediate Release

NEWS RELEASE SUMMARY - November 26, 2008

San Diego, CA - United States Attorney Karen P. Hewitt announced that Earl Venton Buchanan pled guilty today in federal court in San Diego to Count One of the Indictment that charged him with Sexual Exploitation of a Child, in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 2251(a) and agreed to the forfeiture of real estate used in the commission of the offense. Buchanan tendered his guilty plea before Magistrate Judge Louisa S. Porter, subject to final acceptance of the plea by United States District Court Judge Marilyn L. Huff, at the time of sentencing.

At the hearing, Buchanan admitted that he produced a video that depicted him molesting a minor, approximately 5-7 years of age, in the defendant's bedroom within his residence. Buchanan further admitted that he transported the videotape from California to Arizona to the Republic of Mexico and then back to California.

According to court records, Buchanan was apprehended at the Calexico West Port of Entry on July 3, 2006, when he attempted entry into the United States with a five-year-old boy. The child is not related to

Buchanan. Customs and Border Protection Officers referred Buchanan's vehicle to secondary inspection when Buchanan could not provide sufficient identification for the child. Officers discovered the videotape in Buchanan's vehicle during an inspection of the vehicle. Officers also found lubricants, condoms, children's videos and children's clothes in Buchanan's vehicle along with hotel receipts.

Sentencing for Buchanan is scheduled for March 2, 2009 at 9:00 a.m., before Judge Huff.

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. Suspected child sexual exploitation or missing children may be reported to the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children, an Operation Predator partner, at 1-800-843-5678 or <http://www.cybertipline.com>

DEFENDANT

Case Number: 06CR1612-H

EARL VENTON BUCHANAN

SUMMARY OF CHARGES

Title 18, United States Code, Section 2251(a)(Sexual Exploitation of a Child)
Maximum Penalties: 30 years' incarceration with a mandatory minimum sentence of 15 years' incarceration, \$250,000 fine, a minimum of 5 years and up to a lifetime of supervised release and registration as a sex offender.

AGENCIES

Immigration and Customs Enforcement
Customs and Border Protection