



Department of Justice

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BONITA SPRINGS RESIDENT SENTENCED TO 5 YEARS FOR POSSESSING CHILD PORNOGRAPHY

Fort Myers, Florida - U.S. Attorney A. Brian Albritton announces that U.S. District Judge John E. Steele today sentenced James Stoebe (age 70, of Bonita Springs) to five years in federal prison and a lifetime of supervised release for possessing child pornography. The court also ordered Stoebe to forfeit three computer hard drives and a thumb drive -- property used to commit the offense. Stoebe had been found guilty on January 7, 2009.

According to court documents, on April 25, 2008, federal agents executed a search warrant at Stoebe's Bonita Springs residence. Stoebe admitted to the agents that he had been downloading child pornography for two or three years using the peer-to-peer file sharing program Limewire. A subsequent computer forensic examination of Stoebe's computer equipment revealed that Stoebe had more than 80 videos and more than 1000 still images depicting child pornography.

This case was investigated by the Federal Bureau of Investigation. It was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Yolande G. Viacava.

This case was brought as part of Project Safe Childhood, a nationwide initiative launched in May 2006 by the Department of Justice to combat the growing epidemic of

child sexual exploitation and abuse. Led by United States Attorneys' Offices and the Criminal Division's Child Exploitation and Obscenity Section (CEOS), Project Safe Childhood marshals federal, state, and local resources to better locate, apprehend, and prosecute individuals who exploit children via the Internet, and to identify and rescue victims. For more information about Project Safe Childhood, please visit www.projectsafechildhood.gov.