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**CROWLEY, LA MAN SENTENCED TO 84 MONTHS IN PRISON
FOR CHILD PORNOGRAPHY CHARGES**

Defendant receives 15 years supervised release

LAFAYETTE, La.: United States Attorney Stephanie A. Finley announced today that Brodie C. Thibodeaux, age 24, of Crowley, La., was sentenced on October 9, 2012, to serve 84 months in federal prison for conspiracy to receive and distribute child pornography. U. S. District Judge Elizabeth E. Foote also ordered the defendant to serve 15 years of supervised release following his confinement.

Thibodeaux and five co-defendants were charged in September of 2011 with one count of conspiracy to receive and distribute child pornography, seven counts of distribution of child pornography, eight counts of receiving child pornography and one count of possession of child pornography. According to documents filed with the court at Thibodeaux's guilty plea on June 8, 2012, agents with the U.S. Department of Homeland Security and officers with the Lafayette Police Department executed a search warrant at Thibodeaux's residence in Crowley and discovered approximately 100 videos of child pornography, some of which depicted children as young as infants being sexually assaulted. Thibodeaux admitted to the agents that he had utilized the peer to peer file sharing program, Frostwire. An investigation of Thibodeaux's email account also revealed that from February 2011 through April 2011, the defendant exchanged child pornography with six email address which belonged to his co-defendants in this case. Agents found approximately 22 images/videos of child pornography saved in Thibodeaux's email account.

United States Attorney Finley stated, "Today's sentencing embodies our ongoing commitment to keep the children of Louisiana safe by aggressively prosecuting those who receive, distribute, make or obtain child pornography over the Internet."

The case was investigated by Homeland Security Investigations and was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney J. Collin Sims.

This case was brought as part of Project Safe Childhood, a nationwide initiative to combat the growing epidemic of child sexual exploitation and abuse launched by the Department of Justice. 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, as well as to identify and rescue victims. For more information about Project Safe Childhood, please visit www.projectsafchildhood.gov.

The U.S. Attorney's Office and the U.S. Department of Homeland Security/Homeland Security Investigations/Immigration & Customs Enforcement (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.

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