



U.S. Department of Justice

*United States Attorney
District of Maine*

*100 Middle Street
6th Floor, East Tower
Portland, ME 04101*

(207) 780-3257

For Immediate Release
April 28, 2009

Contact: Craig M. Wolff
Assistant United States Attorney
Tel: (207) 771-3237

Maine Man Sentenced for Transportation and Possession of Child Pornography

Portland, Maine: United States Attorney Paula D. Silsby announced that **Jon R. Hughes**, 47, formerly of Isle au Haut, Maine, was sentenced to 20 years imprisonment and a lifetime of supervised release by U.S. District Judge D. Brock Hornby for transportation and possession of child pornography. Hughes pleaded guilty on October 21, 2008.

According to court records, in mid-2005 Hughes, who served as the legal guardian of a 13-year old girl, posed online as a teenaged boy and coerced the girl into taking sexually explicit photographs of herself. On September 1, 2007, Hughes posed as a computer hacker who had hacked into the girl's computer and sent internet hyperlinks to some of the explicit photographs to two of the girl's school classmates. A hyperlink is a clickable link on an internet web page that connects a user to another destination on the internet. The classmates accessed the hyperlinks and viewed the photographs.

In October of 2007, detectives from the Maine State Police Computer Crimes Unit obtained information that Hughes had secretly videotaped the girl in the bathroom of the home they shared on Isle au Haut. On October 18, 2007, during an interview at Hughes's home, he admitted videotaping the girl, and also admitted possessing child pornography on his computer. Hughes consented to the removal and search of his computers and other items. A subsequent forensic examination of a laptop computer obtained from his home revealed hundreds of child pornography images, including the explicit photographs of the girl, and many child pornography

videos.

United States Attorney Silsby praised the investigation conducted by the Maine State Police Computer Crimes Unit, the United States Secret Service and the Knox County Sheriff's Department.

#