



U.S. Department of Justice

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For Immediate Release:
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Event: Sentenced

Defendant: **Scott Anthony Lane**

**COLUMBIAVILLE MAN SENTENCED TO 9 YEARS FOR
SENDING CHILD PORNOGRAPHY TO UNDERCOVER
AGENT POSING AS 13 YEAR-OLD GIRL**

Terrence Berg, United States Attorney for the Eastern District of Michigan, announced that Scott Anthony Lane, 44, of Columbiaville, Michigan, was sentenced today in Federal District Court following his April 2009 guilty plea to charges of shipment and possession of child pornography. Mr. Berg was joined in the announcement by William Callahan, Special Agent in Charge of the United States Secret Service. Lane was sentenced by the Honorable George Caram Steeh to 9 years in federal prison, to be followed by 10 years of supervised release.

According to court records, in April 2008, Lane initiated a chat with an undercover agent posing as a 13 year-old girl in an online romance chatroom. Lane propositioned the undercover agent, suggesting that would begin to date her divorced mother, but that in reality, he and the child would secretly be boyfriend/girlfriend and would be sexually intimate. As the chats continued, Lane sent the undercover agent several images of child pornography over

the Internet, explaining that the children in the images were involved in incestuous sexual activity with family members. Lane's criminal history includes two state convictions for accosting children for immoral purposes, which involved additional online chats with undercover law enforcement personnel.

United States Attorney Terrence Berg said: "Child pornography cases are always troubling, but the facts of this case are particularly deplorable because it involves a demonstrated recidivist who used pictures of other child victims to entice and exploit someone whom he believed to be a 13 year-old girl. Fortunately, due to the hard work of our dedicated colleagues at the Secret Service, he will be out of circulation for years to come."

This case was brought as part of Project Safe Childhood, a nationwide initiative designed to protect children from online exploitation and abuse. Led by the United States Attorneys Offices, 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 identify and rescue victims. For more information about Project Safe Childhood, please visit www.projectsafechildhood.gov/.

Assistant United States Attorney Erin Shaw prosecuted the case for the United States.