



**United States Department of Justice  
United States Attorney's Office  
District of Minnesota**

**Frank J. Magill,  
United States Attorney**

David Anderson, Public Affairs Specialist  
(612) 664-5684; cell: (612) 730-2251

# **News Release**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
Wednesday, Oct. 8, 2008

## **St. Paul man sentenced for receiving child pornography**

A 48-year-old St. Paul man was sentenced yesterday in federal court for receiving child pornography.

On Oct. 7 in Minneapolis, United States District Court Judge John Tunheim sentenced Ralph William Olson to 121 months in prison and lifetime supervised release on one count of receipt of child pornography. Olson was indicted on Oct. 31, 2006, and pleaded guilty on April 22, 2008.

According to Olson's plea agreement, he admitted that in May 2005 he did knowingly receive a visual depiction involving the use of a minor engaging in sexually explicit conduct. Olson also admitted that the depiction had been transported via a computer.

This case was the result of an investigation by the Federal Bureau of Investigation, and was prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Ann M. Anaya.

This case is part of Project Safe Childhood (PSC), a national initiative that encourages the use of multi-jurisdictional task forces to investigate and prosecute cases that involve the sexual exploitation of children over the Internet. PSC urges that law enforcement efforts be complemented by community-wide campaigns to assist victims of exploitation and to educate parents, other adults, and children about Internet safety.

According to the U.S. Department of Justice, one in 33 children receives an unwanted sexual solicitation online each year. One in four children experiences unwanted exposure to sexually explicit material on the Internet each year. And, more than 20,000 images of child pornography are posted on the Internet every week. Moreover, recent research conducted by the Federal Bureau of Prisons indicates a strong correlation between possessing or distributing child pornography and committing sexual-contact crimes against children.