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News Release

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2 charged for possessing child pornography

Two central-Minnesota men were recently charged in federal court in unrelated cases of possessing child pornography.

In the first case, James Carl Zadow, 61, Buffalo, was charged Jan. 16 with one count of possession of child pornography. Zadow's charging document alleges that on Feb. 12, 2008, he did knowingly possess one or more matters, specifically computers, hard drives and compact discs, which contained visual depictions of minors engaging in sexually explicit conduct.

If convicted, Zadow faces a potential maximum penalty of 10 years in prison. All sentences are determined by a federal district court judge. This case is the result of an investigation by the Wright County Sheriff's Office and United States Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) and is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Clifford B. Wardlaw.

In the second case, Dennis Gregory Walker, 55, Motley, was charged Jan. 21 with one count of possession of child pornography. Walker's charging document alleges that on Feb. 2, 2007, he did knowingly possess one or more matters, specifically computers, hard drives and compact discs, which contained visual depictions of minors engaging in sexually explicit conduct.

If convicted, Walker faces a potential maximum penalty of 10 years in prison. All sentences are determined by a federal district court judge. This case is the result of an investigation by the U.S. Postal Inspection Service, the Motley Police Department, the Baxter Police Department, the Morrison County Sheriff's Office, the North Carolina State Bureau of Investigation and ICE. It is also being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Wardlaw.

These cases are part of Project Safe Childhood (PSC), a national initiative to combat the growing epidemic of child sexual exploitation and abuse launched in May 2006 by the Department of Justice. Led by United States Attorneys' Offices and the Criminal Division's Child Exploitation and Obscenity Section, PSC 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 PSC, visit

www.projectsafecchildhood.gov

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A defendant, of course, is presumed innocent until he or she pleads guilty or is proven guilty at trial.