

# NEWS

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United States Department of Justice  
U.S. Attorney, District of New Jersey  
401 Market Street, Fourth Floor  
Camden, New Jersey 08101

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***Christopher J. Christie, U.S. Attorney***

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***More Information?*** Contact the Assistant U.S. Attorney or other contact listed below to see if more information is available.

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gamb0814.rel  
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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## Customs and Border Patrol Officer Sentenced to 51 Months In Federal Prison on Child Pornography Charges

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(More)

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CAMDEN – A former Customs and Border Patrol Officer with the Department of Homeland Security was sentenced to 51 months in federal prison today for possession of child pornography, U.S. Attorney Christopher J. Christie announced.

U.S. District Judge Robert B. Kugler also ordered Vincent J. Gambale, 44, of Deptford, to pay a \$10,000 fine and to serve three years of supervised release upon the completion of his prison term. Judge Kugler continued Gambale's \$50,000 bail pending his surrender to the U.S. Bureau of Prisons.

Gambale was indicted on March 21, 2007, on a two-count Indictment that charged one count of knowingly receiving at least three images of child pornography and one count of knowingly possessing at least three images of child pornography. On April 24, 2007, Gambale pleaded guilty before Judge Kugler to the one count of possession of child pornography.

At his plea hearing, Gambale admitted that from January 2006 through April 2006 he collected images and videos containing child pornography from the Internet and stored the files on his computer hard drive and compact discs. Gambale admitted that the images and videos contained child pornography depicted minors, some of whom were under the age of 12, in sexually explicit conduct with other minors and/or adults.

Gambale's prosecution resulted from an international investigation known as Operation Emissary, which was initiated by the New Jersey office of Immigration and Customs Enforcement in conjunction with the United States Attorney's Office for the District of New Jersey. The investigation focused on a commercial Internet website offering access to videos and images of hard-core child pornography. The website alerted would-be subscribers that subscribing to the website was illegal, and warned them to be discreet about their purchase.

In determining the sentence, Judge Kugler consulted the advisory U.S. Sentencing Guidelines, which provide appropriate sentencing ranges that take into account the severity and characteristics of the offense, the defendant's criminal history, if any, and other factors. The judge, however, was not bound by those guidelines in determining a sentence.

Parole has been abolished in the federal system. Defendants who are given custodial terms must serve nearly all that time.

Christie credited Special Agents of the Department of Homeland Security, Immigration and Customs Enforcement, under the direction of Kyle Hutchins, in Newark, for investigation of the case.

The government is represented by Assistant United States Attorney Paul B. Matey of the Public Protection Unit of the U.S. Attorney's Office Criminal Division in Newark.

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Defense Attorney: Anthony J. Fusco, Jr., Esq.    Passaic