

Department of Justice

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
SEPTEMBER 22, 2009
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LIMA MAN INDICTED FOR DISTRIBUTING CHILD PORNOGRAPHY

ROCHESTER, N.Y.--A Federal Grand Jury in Rochester has returned a five count Indictment charging CHARLES R. DICKINSON, II, 38, of Lima, New York, with Two Counts of Distributing Child Pornography, Two Counts of Receiving Child Pornography, and One Count of Possession of Child Pornography U.S. Attorney Kathleen M. Mehlretter of the Western District of New York announced today. The Distribution and Receipt of Child Pornography charges each carry a mandatory minimum penalty of 5 years and a maximum penalty of 20 years in prison. Possession of Child Pornography carries a penalty of up to 10 years in prison. Each charge is also punishable by a fine of up to \$250,000.

Assistant U.S. Attorney Craig R. Gestring, who presented the evidence to the Grand Jury, stated that the Indictment charges the defendant with distributing and receiving images of child pornography using the internet, as well as possessing images of minors engaged in sexually explicit conduct on his computer.

This case was brought as part of Project Safe Childhood, a nationwide 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 (CEOS), 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 to identify and rescue victims. For more information about Project Safe Childhood, please visit www.projectsafechildhood.gov.

The indictment was the culmination of an investigation on the part of the Monroe County Sheriff's Office, under the direction of Sheriff Patrick O'Flynn and Special Agents of the Department of Homeland Security, Bureau of Immigration and Customs Enforcement, under the direction of Special Agent in Charge Lev Kubiak

The defendant will be arraigned before the Honorable Marion W. Payson in United States Magistrate Court.

The fact that a defendant has been charged with a crime is merely an accusation and the defendant is presumed innocent until and unless proven guilty.