

Department of Justice

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CONVICTED CHILD MOLESTER SENTENCED FOR RECEIVING AND POSSESSING CHILD PORNOGRAPHY

ROCHESTER, N.Y.--U.S. Attorney William J. Hochul, Jr. announced today that Anthony Howe, Sr., 48, of Newark, N.Y., who was convicted of receiving and possessing child pornography, was sentenced to 15 years in prison and 20 years supervised release by U.S. District Court Judge David J. Larimer.

Assistant U.S. Attorney Craig R. Gestring, who handled the case, stated that Howe was observed downloading files with names which suggested sexual acts with eight and nine year old children. Newark Police began an investigation, seized a laptop computer, and notified the Department of Homeland Security. Subsequent investigation and examination uncovered more than 150 sexually explicit photos and movies of children.

Howe told federal agents at the time of his arrest that he still had urges to molest children and that he downloaded and viewed child pornography to keep from acting on those urges. The defendant also told agents that he struggled with making the correct choice when it came to molesting children. In the course of the investigation, agents learned that the defendant had three prior convictions for sexual conduct involving a 10 year old, a five year old, and an eight year old.

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.projectsafchildhood.gov.

The sentencing is the culmination of an investigation on the part of Special Agents of Immigration and Customs Enforcement, Homeland Security Investigations, under the direction of Special Agent In Charge James C. Spero, and Officers of the Newark Police Department, under the direction of Chief David L. Christler.

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