



PRESS NOTICE

W. WALTER WILKINS UNITED STATES ATTORNEY DISTRICT OF SOUTH CAROLINA

*1441 Main Street, Suite 500 * Columbia, SC 29201 * (803) 929-3000**

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
CONTACT PERSON: KEVIN F. MCDONALD
(803) 929-3000

LORIS MAN GETS 11 YEARS FOR CHILD PORNOGRAPHY

Columbia, South Carolina ---- United States Attorney W. Walter Wilkins stated today That Charles A. Hardee, age 45, of Loris, South Carolina, was sentenced to serve 11 years in federal prison for possession of child pornography. United States District Judge Terry L. Wooten imposed the sentence, and also ordered that Hardee be supervised for three years upon his release from prison.

Last year federal agents were investigating a New York man suspected of trading child pornography and meeting in chat rooms seeking sex with adults and their children. The agents traced emails from the man's computer to Hardee's residence in South Carolina. Two computers and a thumb drive were seized from Hardee's residence containing numerous images of child pornography. Further investigation revealed that Hardee had traded child pornography with the New York subject, and had also entered computer chat rooms to locate mothers willing to allow their children to have sex with him.

The case was investigated by agents of U.S. Immigration and Customs

Enforcement. Assistant United States Attorney William E. Day, II, of the Florence office handled the case.

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