



**U.S. Department of Justice
U.S. Attorney's Office
Western District of Texas**

John E. Murphy, Acting U.S. Attorney

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MONAHANS MAN PLEADS GUILTY TO FEDERAL CHILD PORNOGRAPHY CHARGE

John E. Murphy, Acting United States Attorney announced that in Midland, 35-year-old Ricky Lynn Currier faces incarceration in a U.S. Bureau of Prisons facility after pleading guilty this morning to receiving child pornography.

On November 16, 2008, officers with the Monahans Police Department arrested Currier at his residence based on a state charge that alleged that Currier sexually assaulted an 8-year-old girl. Authorities subsequently took possession of the defendant's laptop computer. A forensics examination conducted by the Federal Bureau of Investigation revealed the presence of child pornography downloaded from the Internet.

During this morning's hearing before United States Magistrate Judge Timothy J. Bommer, the Government filed a sentencing enhancement notice with the Court based upon an alleged continuing pattern of sexual abuse of children. If granted by the Court, the motion calls for a mandatory minimum of 15 years and up to 40 years in federal prison; if denied, Currier faces a mandatory minimum of five years and up to 20 years in federal prison. No sentencing date has been scheduled.

Assistant United States Attorney Kerry Fleck is prosecuting this case on behalf of the Government.

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