



UNITED STATES ATTORNEY'S OFFICE EASTERN DISTRICT OF VIRGINIA

ALEXANDRIA NEWPORT NEWS NORFOLK RICHMOND

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Former Ivy League Professor Pleads Guilty in Child Pornography Case

(Alexandria, VA) - Lawrence Scott Ward, age 64, of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, pled guilty today to producing child pornography for importation into the United States in violation of federal law. Chuck Rosenberg, United States Attorney for the Eastern District of Virginia; and William F. Reid, Special Agent in Charge, U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE), made the announcement after the guilty plea was accepted by United States District Judge Leonie M. Brinkema. Ward, a former professor at the University of Pennsylvania, Wharton School of Business, will be sentenced on May 11, 2007. The charge carries a minimum term of 15 years in prison, and a maximum of term of 30 years in prison.

U.S. Attorney Rosenberg said, "Our children are at risk from predators not just in our state or in our country, but around the world. This is a disturbing crime, and it is without borders."

According to court documents, on August 27, 2006, Ward arrived at Dulles International Airport aboard a direct flight from Brazil. A Customs and Border Protection Officer searched Ward's luggage and computer during a routine customs examination and discovered child pornography on the computer. Further examination revealed multiple mini-DVD's containing movies of Ward engaging in sexual intercourse with a minor boy. Ward has been held in custody since his arrest on August 27, 2006.

"Those who engage in the exploitation of children cannot expect to hide in the anonymity of cyberspace," said Special Agent in Charge Reid. "ICE puts a high priority on protecting children from sexual predators, child sex tourists, Internet child pornographers and human traffickers"

The case was investigated by ICE. The prosecution of the case is being handled by Assistant United States Attorneys Edmund P. Power and Gerald J. Smagala.

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