



U.S. Department of Justice

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February 2, 2006

PRESS RELEASE

**JURY CONVICTS NEW JERSEY MAN OF
ATTEMPTED JUVENILE SEX CRIME**

Boston, MA... A New Jersey man was convicted yesterday evening in federal court of traveling with intent to commit a sexual act with a juvenile.

United States Attorney Michael J. Sullivan, Edward J. Drew, Chief of the Waltham Police Department, Leo A. Sacco, Chief of the Medford Police Department, and Steven D. Ricciardi, Special Agent in Charge of the U.S. Secret Service in Boston, announced today that **MARTIN ROB VAN VLIET**, age 49, of Hillsdale, NJ, was convicted by a jury sitting before U.S. District Judge Nancy Gertner, of one count of traveling with intent to commit a sexual act with a juvenile.

Evidence presented during the 6 day trial proved that in October of 2001, **VAN VLIET** met a person he believed to be a 15 year old girl in a Yahoo! internet chat room. The evidence proved that unbeknownst to him, the 15 year old girl he thought he was communicating with was in fact an undercover police officer from the Waltham Police Department. Finally, the evidence proved that on November 19, 2001, after several communications on the internet, **VAN VLIET** traveled from New Jersey to Waltham to meet the supposed 15 year old and commit a sexual act with her.

Judge Gertner scheduled sentencing for April 27, 2006. **VAN VLIET** faces up to 30 years imprisonment, to be followed by 5 years of supervised release, and a \$ 250,000 fine.

The case was investigated by the Waltham Police Department, the Medford Police Department, and the U.S. Secret Service. It is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney S. Waqar Hasib of Sullivan's Major Crimes Unit, and Darcy Katzin of the U.S. Department of Justice Child Exploitation and Obscenity Section.

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