



**U.S. Department of Justice**

**ANTHONY J. JENKINS**  
*United States Attorney*  
*District of the Virgin Islands*

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*Federal Building & United States Courthouse*  
*5500 Veterans Drive, Suite 260*  
*Charlotte Amalie*  
*St. Thomas, Virgin Islands 00802-6424*  
*Voice: (340) 774-5757*  
*Fax: (340) 776-3474*

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**PRESS RELEASE**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

**JOHN WAGGONER INDICTED ON FEDERAL CHILD PORNOGRAPHY  
CHARGES UNDER PROJECT SAFE CHILDHOOD INITIATIVE**

United States Attorney Anthony Jenkins and Manuel Oyola-Torres, Special Agent in Charge, U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement, announced today that a federal Grand Jury sitting on St. Croix returned a three count Indictment on March 20, 2007 naming as a defendant 64-year-old John Waggoner of 22A Estate Bugby Hole, Christiansted, St. Croix. The Indictment charges John Waggoner with production, possession, and receipt of child pornography in violation of federal law.

In Count 1, according to the Indictment, from in or around January, 2006 to in or around October, 2006, John Waggoner did knowingly use a person under the age of eighteen to engage in sexually explicit conduct; to wit, the lascivious exhibition of the genitals and pubic area of said minor, for the purpose of producing visual depictions of such conduct, such visual depictions having been actually produced using materials that had been transported in interstate and foreign commerce by any means, including by computer. In Counts 2 and 3 according to the Indictment, from in or around June, 2005 to in or around December, 2006, John Waggoner did possess and receive images which contained visual depictions which involved conduct of a minor engaging in sexually explicit conduct. According to the Indictment,

the received and possessed images had been transported in interstate and foreign commerce by computer.

The statutory punishment for Production of Child Pornography is a mandatory minimum term of imprisonment of 15 years. The statutory punishment for Receipt and Possession of Child Pornography is not less than five years and not more than 20 years. The offenses carry a \$250,000 fine.

John Waggoner has been detained pending trial.

U.S. Attorney Jenkins stated that this case was the result of an investigation by U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement. U.S. Attorney Jenkins emphasized that an Indictment is merely a charging document and that, as in all criminal cases, the defendants are presumed innocent unless and until convicted in a court of law.

U.S. Attorney Jenkins stated that this case is being brought as part of Project Safe Childhood. In February 2006, Attorney General Alberto R. Gonzales launched Project Safe Childhood, a nationwide initiative designed to protect children from online exploitation and abuse. Led by the United States Attorneys Offices, 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 identifying and rescuing victims. For more information about Project Safe Childhood, please visit [www.projectsafechildhood.gov/](http://www.projectsafechildhood.gov/)