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CALIFORNIA MAN PLEADS GUILTY TO CHILD PORNOGRAPHY CHARGE

WASHINGTON – A Redding, Calif., man pleaded guilty today in Sacramento, Calif., to one count of possession of child pornography and to three violations of his supervised release conditions, Acting Assistant Attorney General of the Criminal Division Matthew Friedrich and U.S. Attorney for the Eastern District of California McGregor W. Scott announced.

Ron Sean Arter Jr., 29, was convicted in 2002 of possession and transportation of child pornography in the Eastern District of California and sentenced to 33 months in prison, according to court documents. In 2004, Arter began a three-year term of supervised release, the conditions of which required Arter to not commit another criminal offense, possess pornographic material or use a computer to access the Internet. According to information contained in plea documents, while on supervised release in 2006, Arter was arrested in Redding after police discovered that he was using a concealed camera to film underneath the skirt of an 11-year-old girl. Information contained in the plea documents also revealed that Arter filmed underneath the skirts of other minor girls and adult women in the Redding area and that Arter secretly used his girlfriend's laptop computer to download and possess child pornography from the Internet.

Arter's sentencing is scheduled for Dec. 5, 2008. As part of his plea agreement, Arter faces a maximum sentence of 10 years in prison, a fine of \$250,000 and lifetime supervised release following his release from prison.

This case emerged out of Project Safe Childhood (PSC), a nationwide initiative designed to protect children from online exploitation and abuse. Led by the U.S. Attorneys' Offices, PSC marshals federal, state and local resources to better locate, apprehend and prosecute individuals who exploit children via the Internet, as well as identify and rescue victims. For more information about PSC, please visit http://www.projectsafechildhood.gov.

The case is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Camil A. Skipper of the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Eastern District of California and Trial Attorney Bonnie L. Kane of the Criminal Division's Child Exploitation and Obscenity Section (CEOS). The case is being investigated by the Department of Homeland Security's Bureau of Immigration and Customs Enforcement, CEOS's High Technology Investigative Unit and the Redding Police Department.