



Department of Justice

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INDIANA MAN INDICTED IN NATIONWIDE INVESTIGATION OF INTERNET CHILD PORNOGRAPHY TRADE

WASHINGTON – James W. Dotts Jr., 32, of Georgetown, Ind., has been indicted by a federal grand jury on receipt and possession of child pornography charges, Assistant Attorney General Alice S. Fisher of the Criminal Division, U.S. Attorney for the Southern District of Indiana Timothy M. Morrison, and U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) Resident Agent in Charge Daniel T. Dill announced today. Dotts is the most recent suspect to be charged in Operation Emissary, an ICE nationwide investigation targeting a Web site that offered images and movies of hardcore child pornography.

A grand jury in the Southern District of Indiana returned the indictment against Dotts on Feb. 27, 2008, but it was unsealed today after he surrendered himself to authorities. Dotts, who made his first appearance in court today, is charged with three counts of receiving child pornography and one count of possessing child pornography. If convicted, Dotts faces a mandatory minimum of five years in prison and a maximum of 20 years for each count of receiving child pornography and a maximum of 10 years in prison for possessing child pornography. He also faces a fine of up to \$250,000 per count. An indictment is merely a charge and defendants are presumed innocent until proven guilty.

Operation Emissary, which began in 2006, focused on a commercial Web site offering access to videos and images of hardcore child pornography. The Web site alerted would-be subscribers that subscribing to the Web site was illegal and warned them to be discreet about their purchases. Investigators targeted individuals like Dotts who subscribed to the Web site over a period of approximately two to three months at the end of 2005 and 2006. More than 208 arrests have been made since June 2007 as part of the resulting nationwide sweep.

This case is being brought as part of Project Safe Childhood, a nationwide initiative designed to protect children from online exploitation and abuse. Led by the U.S. 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 to identify and rescue victims. For more information about Project Safe Childhood, please visit www.projectsafefchildhood.gov.

The case against Dotts is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Steven D. DeBrotta of the Southern District of Indiana and Trial Attorney Bonnie Kane of the Criminal Division's

Child Exploitation and Obscenity Section (CEOS). The investigation is being handled by ICE and the CEOS's High Tech Investigative Unit.

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