

# PRESS RELEASE

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## **DEFENDANT SENTENCED TO 24 YEARS IN PRISON FOR TRANSPORTING, RECEIVING AND POSSESSING CHILD PORNOGRAPHY**

**RE: UNITED STATES v. DONALD ANSON**

Terrance P. Flynn, United States Attorney for the Western District of New York, and Julie Meyers, Assistant Secretary of U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement, announced that Donald J. Anson, age 52, of 121 Grassemere Park, Rochester, New York was sentenced today by District Court Judge Charles J. Siragusa to 24 years in prison and placed on lifetime supervised release in connection with him being found guilty on May 2, 2006, after a seven day trial of forty-two of forty-three counts involving the transportation, receipt and possession of child pornography. Specifically, at his trial, Anson was found guilty of two counts of transportation of child pornography, in violation of 18 U.S.C. §2552A(a)(1), one count of receipt of child pornography, in violation of 18 U.S.C. §2252A(a)(2), and thirty-nine counts of possession of child pornography, in violation of 18 U.S.C. §2252A(a)(5)(B).

Assistant U.S. Attorney Richard A. Resnick, who handled the trial along with Jennifer Toritto Leonardo of the Department of Justice's Child Exploitation and Obscenity Section (CEOS) in Washington, D.C., stated that on December 30, 2003, the

U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) seized a child pornography website in Tampa, Florida called the Online Sharing Community. The website was then sent to CEOS in Washington where it was forensically examined by James Fottrell, Assistant to the Chief for Computer Forensics and Investigations of CEOS's High Tech Investigative. The forensic examination revealed that Anson had uploaded child pornography images to the Online Sharing Community website.

On June 2, 2004, ICE special agents searched Anson's residence at 121 Grassemere Park in Rochester. A computer and thirty-eight CD Roms containing child pornography were found at the residence. A subsequent forensic examination by ICE revealed that there were approximately 93,000 images of children contained on Anson's computer and CD Roms. Most of the images constituted child pornography, and many involved sadistic conduct and very young children being forced to engage in sexually explicit conduct with adults.

The evidence at trial established that Anson was a sophisticated collector of child pornography who spent many hours each day viewing and downloading child pornography. He meticulously organized his child pornography, and he belonged to internet groups where child pornography was shared, commented on, and even rated.

The conviction in this case was the culmination of an investigation by the Department of Homeland Security, U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement under the direction of Peter Smith, Special Agent in Charge.