



U.S. Department of Justice

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VISITING NURSE SENTENCED IN CHILD PORNOGRAPHY CASE

Little Rock - Jane W. Duke, United States Attorney for the Eastern District of Arkansas, and Michael A. Holt, Special Agent in Charge of the Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) Office of Investigations in New Orleans, announced Timothy Alan Courtney, age 33, of Clifton Park, New York, was sentenced by Chief United States District Judge J. Leon Holmes to 180 months imprisonment followed by 10 years of supervised release for Advertising for the Receipt and Possession of Child Pornography.

"All children have an absolute right to grow up free from the fear of sexual exploitation," said Holt. "ICE relentlessly pursues predators who sexually abuse children, whether that abuse is physical in nature or if it's accomplished by exploiting their images. The sentencing of this man sends a strong message that ICE will not tolerate such despicable crime. Our agents will continue to police cyberspace to investigate and bring to justice those individuals who exploit the most vulnerable segment of our society – our children."

On July 16, 2007, Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) agents in Portland, Oregon were working in an undercover capacity and discovered an advertisement in a chat-room indicating that a person could obtain access to child pornography if they would upload images first. The agents obtained the IP address from the advertisement which identified Timothy Alan Courtney as the owner of the advertisement.

ICE agents in Little Rock obtained and executed a search warrant for Courtney's apartment in west Little Rock. They found two laptops in Courtney's apartment. During a search of the laptops, agents found child pornographic images. Agents also learned that Courtney was a traveling nurse and was working at Arkansas Children's Hospital. Given his employment as a pediatric nurse, agents arrested Courtney the same day as the search of his apartment. Upon Courtney's arrest at Arkansas Children's Hospital, Courtney was in possession of an oral syringe containing a narcotic similar to one he used in an encounter with a minor at a previous place of employment.

At the sentencing hearing, the United States Attorney's Office introduced evidence that Courtney not only collected and distributed child pornography, but that he also had taken a photograph of a minor exposing her breasts. ICE agents determined that Courtney took this photograph while working as a registered nurse at a hospital in Rochester, New York. At the time, Courtney was caring for a sixteen-year-old girl who had been hospitalized for emotional troubles. While under his care, Courtney exchanged oral morphine for oral sex with the minor and took the photograph. Courtney attempted to delete the photograph from his computer files but through forensic computer technology, agents recovered the digital photograph Courtney had taken during his encounter with the minor.

The case is a result of an investigation by Immigration and Customs Enforcement. Assistant United States Attorney Joe Volpe prosecuted this case for the United States.

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