



Department of Justice

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UNITED STATES AIR FORCE TECH SERGEANT SENTENCED TO 72 MONTHS IN PRISON FOR RECEIPT OF CHILD PORNOGRAPHY

Jamie Hall, age 37, a Tech Sergeant stationed at Dover Air Force Base, was sentenced today to 72 months in prison for receipt of child pornography, in violation of federal law. Hall also was sentenced to 5 years of supervised release, which will commence following his prison term. He also will be required to register as a sex offender in any jurisdiction in which he lives, works or attends school.

According to statements made at today's hearing and documents filed in court, Hall came to the attention of the United States Department of Homeland Security and the Delaware State Police in February 2010, after he engaged in online conversations with a New Hampshire detective who was posing as an 18-year-old male interested in trading child pornography. Hall sent numerous images of child pornography to the undercover agent and posted additional images to a publicly available website. In online chats with the undercover agent, Hall also expressed interest in identifying a young teenage boy with whom he could engage in a sexual relationship.

At today's sentencing hearing, Hall's defense attorney argued that Hall downloaded and viewed child pornography only as a form of "therapy" for post-traumatic stress disorder that resulted from Hall's two tours of duty in the Iraq war. United States District Judge Leonard P. Stark noted that Hall also was distributing child pornography to other sex offenders and had engaged in online chats in which he discussed his interest in molesting a child. Judge Stark further concluded that the defense's argument did not support a lighter sentence and that even Hall's treating doctor recognized that Hall poses a danger to children.

Following the sentencing hearing, Charles M. Oberly, III, United States Attorney for the District of Delaware, stated: "Those who prey on our children -- regardless of their station in life, standing in the community, job, or background -- will find themselves primary targets of law enforcement."

“The defendant was bartering images of children being sexually abused with like-minded criminals on the Internet. People who trade these images are victimizing these children each time they share a photo or video and creating demand for more images of children being abused,” said ICE Special Agent in Charge John P. Kelleghan of Homeland Security Investigations in Philadelphia. “Homeland Security Investigations is committed to breaking that vicious cycle, protecting children, and bringing those who abuse children to justice.”

This case was investigated by the United States Department of Homeland Security, Homeland Security Investigations. This case was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Edward J. McAndrew.
