

Department of Justice

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UTAH MAN CONVICTED OF TRAVELING TO GEORGIA TO HAVE SEX WITH A NINE-YEAR-OLD GIRL

ATLANTA, GA - A jury in federal district court today convicted ROBIN CULLEY O'NEILL, 53, of Tooele, Utah, on charges of using a computer connected to the Internet to attempt to entice a minor to engage in criminal sexual conduct and crossing a state line to have sex with a person under 12 years of age.

"The defendant in this case demonstrated his dangerousness to children by trolling on the Internet and then acting on his desires by traveling here," said United States Attorney David E. Nahmias. "Catching and convicting people who prey on children on the Internet is one of the highest priorities of the Department of Justice, and we will continue to devote significant resources to finding and prosecuting them."

According to United States Attorney Nahmias and the information presented in court: the jury found O'NEILL guilty on two counts: (1) using a facility of interstate commerce to attempt to entice a minor to engage in criminal sexual activity, in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 2422(b), and (2) crossing a state line with the intent to engage in a sexual act with a person who had not attained the age of 12 years, in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 2241(c). O'NEILL had numerous internet chats with an undercover FBI agent before he traveled to Atlanta to have sex with a young mother and her nine-year-old daughter. In fact, the "mother" was an undercover agent working with the FBI's Safe Child Task Force. The nine-year-old daughter did not actually exist. O'NEILL was arrested when he arrived in the Atlanta Hartsfield Jackson International Airport on a flight from Salt Lake City on September 12, 2005.

O'NEILL could receive a maximum sentence of life imprisonment and a fine of up to \$500,000. Sentencing will be scheduled for later this year by United States District Judge Richard W. Story.

This case was investigated by Special Agents of the FBI and Agents of the FBI Safe Child Task Force.

Assistant United States Attorney William G. Traynor is prosecuting the case.

For further information please contact David E. Nahmias (pronounced NAH-meus), United States Attorney or Charysse L. Alexander, Executive Assistant United States Attorney, through Patrick Crosby, Public Affairs Officer, U.S. Attorney's Office, at (404) 581-6016. The Internet address for the HomePage for the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Northern District of Georgia is www.usdoj.gov/usao/gan.