



Department of Justice

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TEXAS MAN GUILTY OF TRAVELING GEORGIA TO HAVE SEX WITH A CHILD

Online Predator is Convicted of a Thirty-Year Offense

Atlanta, GA - After a bench trial in district court, a federal judge today returned a guilty verdict against KELLY FARLEY, 39, of McKinney, Texas on charges of crossing state lines to have sex with a child under 12 and using a computer to entice a child to engage in unlawful sexual activity.

United States Attorney David E. Nahmias said of today's verdict, "This case is another disturbing reminder of the dangers that lurk on the internet in the form of predators who hope to sexually exploit children. This defendant flew from Texas to Atlanta intending to meet an 11 year-old child he could sexually exploit."

According to United States Attorney Nahmias and the information presented in court: FARLEY approached an undercover agent in an online chat room and began talking about engaging in sex with the agent's 10 year-old daughter. (There was no actual child.) Over the course of several months, he continued to ask about having sex with the child, and suggested that the undercover agent molest the child first to "get her prepared" for him. The defendant made arrangements to meet the agent and the child at a local restaurant on May 15, 2007. After dinner, the defendant planned to go to the agent's house and molest the child. FARLEY was arrested as soon as his plane landed in Atlanta. He had a laptop computer with him which contained approximately 100 images of child pornography.

FARLEY faces a mandatory minimum sentence of 30 years in prison, and a maximum sentence of life in prison and a fine of up to \$250,000. Sentencing is scheduled for June 27, 2008 at 11:00am before United States District Judge Beverly B. Martin.

This case was investigated by officers of the Clayton County Police Department, in conjunction with the FBI's Safe Child Task Force.

Assistant United States Attorneys Francey Hakes and Jeff Brown are prosecuting the case.

This case is being brought as part of Project Safe Childhood. In February 2006, the Attorney General launched Project Safe Childhood, a nationwide initiative designed to protect children from online exploitation and abuse. Led by the United States Attorney's Offices around the country, Project Safe Childhood marshals federal, state and local resources to apprehend and prosecute individuals who exploit children via the Internet. For more information about Project Safe Childhood, please visit www.projectsafekidhood.gov.

For further information please contact David E. Nahmias (pronounced NAH-me-us), 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.