



# Department of Justice

United States Attorney Sally Quillian Yates  
Northern District of Georgia

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

05/05/10

<http://www.usdoj.gov/usao/gan/>

CONTACT: Patrick Crosby

(404)581-6016

FAX (404)581-6160

## **JURY CONVICTS CHILD MOLESTER OF MAILING CHILD PORNOGRAPHY**

### ***Man Recently Released from Prison for Child Molestation Sent Child Pornography To a State Prison***

ATLANTA, GA - After a two-day trial, a jury in federal district court has returned a guilty verdict against PRESTON DANIEL COOPER, a/k/a "Daniel Cooper," 44, of Atlanta, Georgia, on a charge of mailing child pornography.

United States Attorney Sally Quillian Yates said, "This defendant barely had gotten out of prison for child molestation when he tried to send child pornography back into the prison hidden in a greeting card. This kind of poison is not tolerable in our homes, our computers, or our prisons. Thanks to the observations and actions of officials at Telfair Prison and the Postal Inspectors, this defendant is going back to prison."

"The use of the U.S. mails to victimize children will not be tolerated, plain and simple," said Martin D. Phanco, Postal Inspector in Charge.

According to United States Attorney Yates, the charges and other information presented in court: COOPER, served a sentence of 15 years after he was convicted in state court for child molestation. Shortly after he was released from prison in September 2008, COOPER printed child pornography from a computer located in the group house in which he was living. COOPER then placed the photographs in a false compartment within an Easter greeting card. He mailed the card and images to an inmate that he knew at Telfair State Prison. Prison officials noticed that the card was unusually thick, investigated, and found the images hidden inside. The United States Postal Service traced the card and images back to COOPER, who confessed to the crime. The jury found him guilty of one count of mailing child pornography. COOPER was indicted by a federal grand jury on June 9, 2009.

By statute, COOPER must be sentenced to at least 15 years in prison, and could receive a maximum prison sentence of up to 40 years and a fine of up to \$ 250,000. A date for COOPER's sentencing before Senior United States District Judge Orinda D. Evans has not yet been set, and COOPER will remain in custody until sentencing. In

determining the actual sentence, the Court will consider the United States Sentencing Guidelines, which are not binding but provide appropriate sentencing ranges for most offenders.

This case is being investigated by Inspectors of the United States Postal Service.

Assistant United States Attorneys Kim Dammers and Shanya Dingle are prosecuting the case.

For further information please contact Sally Q. Yates, 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.justice.gov/usao/gan](http://www.justice.gov/usao/gan).