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### **FORMER BARTLETT MAN SENTENCED TO 40 YEARS IN FEDERAL PRISON FOR SEXUALLY MOLESTING INFANT DURING LIVE STREAMING ONLINE VIDEO**

*More than two dozen prosecuted worldwide after international undercover investigation*

CHICAGO — A former west suburban man charged with creating a live streaming online video of himself sexually molesting an infant in 2005 was sentenced to 40 years in federal prison on child exploitation charges, ending one of the most significant international child exploitation investigations ever brought here, federal law enforcement officials announced today. The defendant, **Brian Annoreno**, was among several Chicago area men who were charged here in 2006 with participating in a private Internet “chat room” used to facilitate the trading of thousands of illegal images. Annoreno and more than two dozen individuals in the United States, Canada, England and elsewhere were prosecuted as a result of an international undercover investigation that infiltrated the chat room, where Annoreno and others allegedly transmitted streaming video of live molestations through online instant messenger services to participants around the world.

Annoreno, 35, formerly of Bartlett, was ordered to serve the 40-year prison term last Friday by U.S. District Judge James Zagel in Federal Court in Chicago. Annoreno has remained in federal custody since he was arrested in January 2006 and he will receive credit for time served. He faced a mandatory minimum sentence of five years and a maximum of 50 years in prison.

“This significant prison sentence concludes one of ICE-HSI's most extensive child pornography investigations,” said ICE Director John Morton. “Our investigators took aggressive

action to target Brian Annoreno and take down the international network he was a part of that shockingly molested children ‘on demand’ for others to request and view in secure video chat rooms. We are grateful for the support we received from our exceptional global law enforcement partners in Canada, Australia and the United Kingdom to dismantle this international conspiracy that targeted children.”

Patrick J. Fitzgerald, United States Attorney for the Northern District of Illinois, announced the sentence together with ICE Director Morton and Gary J. Hartwig, Special Agent-in-Charge of U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) Office of Homeland Security Investigations (HSI) in Chicago. Canadian police officials in Edmonton, Toronto and Ottawa assisted in the joint international investigation. Mr. Fitzgerald also acknowledged the assistance of the Illinois Internet Crimes Against Children (ICAC) task force, which operates out of Illinois Attorney General Lisa Madigan’s office. Also assisting in the Illinois portion of the investigation were the Lake County State’s Attorney’s Office, the Police Departments in Aurora, North Aurora and Bartlett, the U.S. Attorney’s Office for the Southern District of Iowa, the U.S. Postal Inspection Service and the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

“This case involved the most disturbing criminal sexual assault of minors,” Mr. Fitzgerald said. “The exploitation of children in such a depraved manner can never be tolerated. We are grateful for the extremely close cooperation between federal, state and local investigators and prosecutors around the country led by the strong efforts of ICE-HSI investigators here in Chicago and the international cooperation spearheaded by Canadian authorities.”

Annoreno pleaded guilty in December 2010 to one count each of conspiracy to receive, transmit and advertise child pornography, receiving child pornography, and possessing child pornography. As part of his written plea agreement, the government cited relevant conduct, to be

considered at sentencing, that Annoreno produced a live streaming video of himself sexually molesting an infant.

Annoreno, who used the screen name “Acidburn,” admitted participating in an Internet chat room known as “Kiddypics & Kiddyvids,” which was hosted through a software program that allowed users to engage in “peer-to-peer” file sharing. Annoreno admitted that between early 2005 and early 2006, he conspired with co-defendants Gregory J. Sweezer and Lisa A. Winebrenner and others to trade images of child pornography through the “Kiddypics & Kiddyvids” chat room. Sweezer, formerly of Aurora, was sentenced in May 2008 to 12 years in prison, and Winebrenner, formerly of Osceola, Iowa, was sentenced in March 2008 to serve 14 years in prison. Another co-defendant, Alan M. Jungels, also formerly of Aurora, was sentenced in March 2008 to 20 years in prison.

The chat room was maintained by a “host” and various “administrators” selected by the host, each of whom had special privileges, including establishing rules for participants. The primary host of the chat room was a Clarksville, Tenn., man until he was arrested in 2006, when Winebrenner, previously an administrator, became the host and assumed responsibility for maintaining accessibility for its participants.

The government is being represented by Assistant U.S. Attorneys Diane MacArthur, Philip Fluhr, Jr., Paul H. Tzur, Patrick Pope, and Mark Schneider.

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