



U.S. Department of Justice

*United States Attorney
Northern District of Illinois
Western Division*

*Monica V. Mallory
Assistant U.S. Attorney*

*308 West State Street - Room 300
Rockford, Illinois 61101*

*PH: (815) 987-4444
FAX: (815) 987-4236*

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JANESVILLE MAN SENTENCED TO 60 MONTHS IN FEDERAL PRISON FOR USING INTERNET TO ARRANGE SEX WITH SOUTH BELOIT MINOR

ROCKFORD – PATRICK J. FITZGERALD, United States Attorney for the Northern District of Illinois; and THOMAS J. KNEIR, Special Agent-in-Charge of the Chicago Division of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, today made the following announcement:

United States District Judge Philip G. Reinhard today sentenced **LESLIE LETTS**, 35 (DOB: 01/23/69), of Janesville, Wisconsin, to 60 months in federal prison without parole for using the internet to arrange sex with what LETTS believed to be a 13 year old South Beloit, Illinois girl. LETTS was arrested by federal authorities on March 12, 2004, when he traveled to South Beloit for the sexual activity.

LETTS pled guilty to the charge on August 9, 2004. In pleading guilty, LETTS admitted that between February 3 and March 10, 2004, he used the internet and telephone to persuade a person he believed to be a 13 year old minor to engage in a sexual act. Specifically, LETTS admitted he used the internet to locate a 13 year old girl's internet profile and began to exchange communications with the child which were sexual in nature. LETTS initial communication was intercepted by the child's mother who contacted law enforcement authorities. LETTS admitted that from February 29 through March 10, 2004, he continued online and telephone conversations with a person he believed to be a 13 year old minor, who was in fact an undercover police officer posing as the minor. LETTS also admitted that on March 12, 2004, he traveled from Janesville, Wisconsin to South Beloit, Illinois, for the purpose of engaging in illicit sexual conduct with a person he believed to be a 13 year old minor.

The case was investigated by the Chicago Federal Bureau of Investigation's Innocent Images Task Force, the Rockford Office of the FBI, the South Beloit, Illinois Police Department, Winnebago County Sheriff's Department and the Naperville, Illinois Police Department. The Innocent Images Task Force is comprised of FBI Special Agents, Inspectors from the U.S. Postal Inspection Service, Investigators from the Cook County Sheriff's Police Department and Detectives from the Palos Heights, Illinois Police Department. Assistance was also provided by the Madison, Wisconsin United States Attorney's Office, the Milwaukee Division of the FBI, and the Janesville, Wisconsin Police Department. The case was prosecuted in federal court by Rockford Assistant United States Attorney Monica V. Mallory.

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