



**United States Department of Justice
United States Attorney's Office
District of Minnesota**

**B. Todd Jones,
United States Attorney**

**Jeanne F. Cooney
Director of Community Relations
(612) 664-5611
email: jeanne.cooney@usdoj.gov**

News Release

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Fridley man sentenced for failing to report to serve federal prison sentence

Yesterday in federal court in St. Paul, a 38-year-old Fridley man was sentenced for failing to report to federal officials to begin serving his prison sentence. United States District Court Judge Donovan W. Frank sentenced Matthew Eric Linngren to 14 months in prison on one count of failure to appear. Linngren was indicted on November 9, 2010, and pleaded guilty on January 13, 2011.

On September 8, 2010, Linngren was sentenced to 180 months in prison for distributing child pornography and was to begin serving that sentence on September 22. On that day, however, he failed to surrender himself to authorities, as ordered by the U.S. District Court. Instead, he fled to California, where he was arrested on October 6, 2010, on auto theft charges in Los Angeles County. Following his arrest, he was turned over to the U.S. Marshals Service ("USMS"). Any charges related to the alleged auto theft are within the jurisdiction of California authorities.

The failure-to-appear case was the result of an investigation by the USMS, with assistance from the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Office. It was prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Karen B. Schommer.

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