



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

## **News Release**

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### **Cottage Grove man indicted for distributing child pornography**

MINNEAPOLIS—Earlier today in federal court, a 30-year-old Cottage Grove man was indicted for distributing images and videos containing child pornography. Steven Michael Borgan, Jr., was specifically charged with eight counts of distribution of child pornography and one count of possession of child pornography. He remains in custody on these charges.

The indictment alleges that on numerous occasions between November of 2010 and July of 2011, Borgan distributed via computer images and videos of minors engaged in sexually explicit conduct. Alleged distribution of the material occurred on November 3 and 8, 2010, as well as on March 7, March 14, April 19, May 5, May 19, and July 13, 2011. In addition, the indictment alleges that on July 25, 2011, Borgan possessed numerous items containing similar content.

According to a law enforcement affidavit filed in the case, authorities discovered the account Borgan used to share child pornography on a peer-to-peer file-sharing website in November of 2010. On July 25, 2010, police executed a search warrant at the residence where Borgan was staying. They also searched his vehicle.

If convicted, Borgan faces a potential maximum penalty of 20 years on each distribution count and ten years for possession of child pornography. All sentences will be determined by a federal district court judge.

This case is the result of an investigation by the Minnesota Cyber Crimes Task Force, which is sponsored by the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the United States Secret Service. Other agencies that participated in the investigation include the FBI task forces in Omaha and Indianapolis, the Iowa Department of Public Safety-Division of Criminal Investigation, and the Cottage Grove Police Department. The case is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Kimberly A. Svendsen.

Presently, the Justice Department is funding a study concerning the correlation between involvement in child pornography and the hands-on sexual abuse of children. A 2008 study (The Butner Study) published in the Journal of Family Violence found that up to 80 percent of federal inmates incarcerated for possession, receipt, or distribution of child pornography also admitted to hands-on sexual abuse of children, ranging from touching to rape.

The U.S. Department of Justice is committed to combating the sexual exploitation of children, particularly via the Internet. In Fiscal Year 2010, 2,235 defendants pleaded guilty to federal child pornography charges, 2,222 of whom were sentenced to prison. In Fiscal Year 2009, 2,083 defendants were sentenced to prison on child pornography charges. For more information about these efforts, please visit the Department's Project Safe Childhood website, at [www.projectsafchildhood.gov](http://www.projectsafchildhood.gov).

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*An indictment is a determination by a grand jury that there is probable cause to believe that offenses have been committed by a defendant. A defendant, of course, is presumed innocent until he or she pleads guilty or is proven guilty at trial.*