



**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](mailto:jeanne.cooney@usdoj.gov)**

## **News Release**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
Thursday, September 15, 2011  
[WWW.JUSTICE.GOV/USAO/MN](http://WWW.JUSTICE.GOV/USAO/MN)

### **Eden Prairie man sentenced for possessing child pornography**

MINNEAPOLIS – Earlier today in federal court, a 47-year-old Eden Prairie man was sentenced for possessing child pornography. United States District Court Judge Ann D. Montgomery sentenced James Mackay Parrish to 36 months in prison on one count of possession of child pornography. In addition, Parrish will serve 15 years of supervised release and pay \$6,000 in restitution. Parrish was indicted on November 9, 2010, and pleaded guilty on February 11, 2011.

In his plea agreement, Parrish admitted that on April 27, 2009, he possessed on his computer, as well as on compact discs and DVDs, approximately 120 images and one video of child pornography. Some of the images depicted sadistic or masochistic conduct or other depictions of violence. The children depicted have been identified by the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children. Many of the children were under the age of 12 at the time they were victimized.

This case was the result of an investigation by the U.S. Postal Inspection Service. It was prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Karen B. Schommer.

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.projectsafefchildhood.gov](http://www.projectsafefchildhood.gov).

###