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# **News Release**

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[WWW.JUSTICE.GOV/USAO/MN](http://WWW.JUSTICE.GOV/USAO/MN)

## **Man pleads guilty to possessing child pornography**

MINNEAPOLIS – Earlier today in federal court, a 20-year-old man pleaded guilty to possessing between 10 and 150 images of child pornography. Zaiye Bharruway Dehkee, no known address, pleaded guilty to one count of possession of child pornography. Dehkee, who was indicted on March 15, 2011, entered his plea before United States District Court Judge John R. Tunheim.

In his plea agreement, Dehkee admitted that between December of 2010 and January of 2011, he possessed photographs stored on both a digital camera and a computer. The photographs showed two minors engaged in sexually explicit conduct. In addition, Dehkee admitted possessing between ten and 150 other similar images.

For his crime, Dehkee faces a potential maximum penalty of ten years in prison. Judge Tunheim will determine his sentence at a future hearing. This case is the result of an investigation by the Anoka County Sheriff's Office and U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement's Homeland Security Investigations. It is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney David P. Steinkamp.

Presently, the Justice Department is funding a study concerning the correlation between the 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.projectsafecchildhood.gov](http://www.projectsafecchildhood.gov).

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