



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

News Release

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Chaska man pleads guilty to possessing child pornography

MINNEAPOLIS—Earlier today in federal court, a 66-year-old Chaska man pleaded guilty to possessing child pornography. Wayne Lee Bourne pleaded guilty to one count of possession of child pornography. Bourne, who was charged on September 6, 2011, entered his plea before United States District Court Judge John R. Tunheim.

In his plea agreement, Bourne admitted that on June 21, 2007, he possessed one or more matters, including a computer, that contained visual depictions of minors engaging in sexually explicit conduct.

For his crime, Bourne faces a potential maximum penalty of ten years in prison. Judge Tunheim will determine his sentence at a future hearing, yet to be scheduled. 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 U.S. Secret Service. Other agencies that participated in the investigation included the Chaska Police Department and the FBI's Birmingham, Alabama, and Philadelphia field offices. 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.

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