

United States Attorney District of New Jersey

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HUDSON COUNTY, NEW JERSEY MAN SENTENCED TO 250 MONTHS IN PRISON FOR TRAVELING TO ILLINOIS FOR SEX WITH A 13-YEAR-OLD GIRL

TRENTON, N.J. – A Hudson County man who admitted to twice traveling to Illinois to have sex with a 13-year-old girl was sentenced yesterday to 250 months in federal prison, announced United States Attorney Paul J. Fishman.

Eric Duprey, 37, of West New York, New Jersey, pleaded guilty in February to interstate travel with the intent to engage in criminal sexual activity before United States District Judge Peter G. Sheridan, who also imposed the sentence today in Trenton federal court.

According to documents filed in this case and statements made in court:

On April 22, 2009, law enforcement officers executed a search warrant at Duprey's West New York home, looking for evidence of child pornography. In addition to the child pornography, officers found evidence that Duprey had sexually abused a 13-year-old girl. Specifically, officers found a "Sex Slave Contract" between Duprey and his victim dated April 1, 2009. They also recovered a computer itinerary showing that Duprey had traveled to Illinois on that date and returned to New Jersey on April 4, 2009. Additionally, agents found a compact disc labeled "A. Pics," which contained photographs of his victim performing a sex act on Duprey.

When confronted with this evidence, Duprey admitted that he met his victim through the Internet, where they spent several months engaged in sexually explicit chats. Duprey also admitted that his purpose in corresponding with his victim was to entice her to engage in sexual activity with him. Ultimately, Duprey succeeded.

Duprey traveled from New Jersey to Illinois twice, once in February 2009 and a second time in April 2009. On both occasions, Duprey and his victim spent several days in an Illinois hotel, where Duprey first plied her with alcohol, marijuana, and other illicit drugs. Duprey then repeatedly sexually abused his victim and took multiple photographs of the abuse.

During the search of Duprey's home, law enforcement officers found several journals kept by Duprey chronicling his abuse of the victim, as well as past sexual abuse of other children. The journals also contained a detailed guide – written by Duprey – on how to seduce and manipulate teenage boys for sex.

In addition to the prison term, Judge Sheridan sentenced Duprey to a lifetime of supervised release and ordered him to pay the victim \$15,000 in restitution.

U.S. Attorney Fishman credited special agents with the FBI, under the direction of Special Agent in Charge Michael B. Ward, with the investigation leading to today's sentence.

The government is represented by Assistant U.S. Attorney Lee Vartan of the U.S. Attorney's Office Criminal Division in Newark.

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Defense counsel: Paul Brickfield, Esq., River Edge, New Jersey David Schlendorf Esq., Toms River, New Jersey