



Department of Justice

United States Attorney Richard S. Hartunian

Northern District of New York

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 2010

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**ROBERT PALMA PLEADS GUILTY TO POSSESSING
CHILD PORNOGRAPHY**

ALBANY, NY – Richard S. Hartunian, U.S. Attorney for the Northern District of New York; Christopher Cole, Chief of Police, Saratoga Springs Police Department; and John F. Pikus, Special Agent In Charge, Federal Bureau of Investigation, Albany Division, announced today that **ROBERT PALMA**, of Saratoga Springs, New York, pleaded guilty before Senior U.S. District Judge Thomas J. McAvoy in United States District Court to a one-count Information charging **PALMA**, with the possession of child pornography in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 2252A(a)(5)(B).

Pursuant to a plea agreement entered today, **PALMA** admitted the following facts relating to the one-count in the Information:

Between March 1, 2007, and January 1, 2010, the approximate dates of the conduct described below, ROBERT PALMA resided in Saratoga County, New York, which is within the Northern District of New York.

Beginning on approximately March 1, 2007 and continuing at periodic intervals until approximately June 1, 2009, ROBERT PALMA used a Canon digital camera to produce video images of two female minors (identified as Jane Doe #1 and Jane Doe #2) engaged in the lascivious exhibition of their genital areas. Specifically, ROBERT PALMA, standing on a step ladder in the garage ... directed the lens on the Canon digital camera at

a hole in the ceiling of the garage that connected to the floor of a bathroom in the residence. The shower in this bathroom was regularly used by Jane Doe #1 and Jane Doe #2. Using the video recording feature of the Canon digital camera, ROBERT PALMA produced at least 10 videos between March 1, 2007, and June 1, 2009, of Jane Doe #1 and/or Jane Doe #2 while they entered and exited the shower, towel dried their respective bodies after showering, and dressed/undressed before or after showering. At least 5 of these videos (hereinafter "Sexually Explicit Videos") captured Jane Doe #1 or Jane Doe #2 engaged in sexually explicit conduct as that term is defined in 18 U.S.C. 2256(2). Specifically, these Sexually Explicit Videos captured Jane Doe #1 and/or Jane Doe #2 engaged in the lascivious exhibition of the genital and pubic areas. In producing the Sexually Explicit Videos, ROBERT PALMA used the zoom feature of the Canon digital camera to zoom-in on the naked genital and pubic areas of Jane Doe #1 or Jane Doe #2 as they entered and exited the shower, towel dried their respective body after showering, or dressed/undressed before or after showering.

The canon digital camera used to produce these the Sexually Explicit Videos of Jane Doe #1 and Jane Doe #2 was manufactured outside of New York State.

At the time that the Sexually Explicit Videos were produced by Robert Palma, both Jane Doe #1 and Jane Doe #2 were under the age of 18

After producing the Sexually Explicit Videos, ROBERT PALMA transferred the videos to the following two computers that he owned: (1) Dell Computer Tower, Model Dimension 8200, Serial Number 4WQT511; (2) Dell Laptop Computer, Model PP33L, Serial Number 3SYZ0F1. Both of the computers, and the respective hard drives therein, were manufactured outside of New York State.

On December 9, 2009, the Sexually Explicit Videos of Jane Doe #1 and Jane Doe #2. were stored on the hard drives of both the Dell Computer Tower, Model Dimension 8200, Serial Number 4WQT511, and the Dell Laptop Computer, Model PP33L, Serial Number 3SYZ0F1. ROBERT PALMA possessed both the Dell Computer Tower, Model Dimension 8200, Serial Number 4WQT511 and the Dell Laptop Computer, Model PP33L, Serial Number 3SYZ0F1 on December 9, 2009, knowing that the two computers contained visual depictions of minors engaged in sexually explicit conduct. The Sexually Explicit Videos possessed on the two computers captured actual identifiable minors engaged in sexually explicit conduct. The Sexually Explicit Videos were produced using materials that had been mailed, or shipped or transported in or affecting interstate or foreign commerce.

The case was investigated by the Saratoga Springs Police Department and the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

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