



U.S. Department of Justice

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NEWS RELEASE

United States Attorney Richard S. Hartunian today announced the arrest of MICHAEL DOLSON, 47, of North Syracuse, on federal child pornography charges.

The federal criminal complaint filed today charges DOLSON with knowingly transmitting child pornography to an undercover officer on multiple occasions, with receiving child pornography over the Internet and with possessing child pornography obtained from the Internet.

DOLSON made his initial appearance in federal court today before Hon. Andrew T. Baxter, United States Magistrate Judge. He was ordered detained pending a detention hearing scheduled for Monday, January 24, 2010.

DOLSON faces a mandatory minimum penalty of 5 years imprisonment, a maximum penalty of 20 years, potential fines of up to \$250,000, and a required term of supervised release of at least 5 years, and up to life. If convicted, DOLSON will be required to register as a sex offender.

The charges are merely accusations and the defendant is presumed innocent until and unless proven guilty.

DOLSON'S arrest is the result of an investigation by the New York State Police, with the assistance of the Village of North Syracuse Police Department and the United States Secret Service,

as part of Project Safe Childhood, a nationwide initiative designed to protect children from online exploitation and abuse. Led by the United States Attorneys Offices, Project Safe Childhood marshals federal, state, and local resources to better locate, apprehend, and prosecute individuals who exploit children via the Internet, as well as identify and rescue victims. For more information about Project Safe Childhood, please visit www.projectsafefchildhood.gov.

DOLSON is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Lisa Fletcher, who can be reached at 448-0672.