



U.S. Department of Justice

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NEWS RELEASE

Richard S. Hartunian, United States Attorney for the Northern District of New York, announced today that **MICHAEL P. GEARY**, age 56, of Utica, New York, entered two felony pleas in U.S. District Court in Syracuse, New York, before the Honorable Glenn T. Suddaby, U.S. District Judge. **GEARY**, a former maintenance mechanic with the United States Postal Service, admitted to using a government computer at the Utica, N.Y. post office, to search for, receive, and view child pornography in violation of 18 U.S.C. §2252 A(a)(2)(A). This offense carries a mandatory minimum sentence of five years incarceration, and a maximum term of twenty years, a \$250,000 fine, and supervised release of not less than five years and up to life.

GEARY also entered a second felony plea admitting that he knowingly possessed and attempted to possess and access with intent to view material that contained an image or images of child pornography in violation of 18 U.S.C. §2252 A(a)(5)(B). This offense carries a maximum term of incarceration of ten years, a \$250,000 fine, and supervised release of not less than five years and up to life. He will be required to register as a sex offender.

Sentencing has been set for June 24, 2011, in Syracuse, New York.

This case was investigated by the U.S. Postal Service Office of Inspector General, with assistance by the Utica Police Department, and Oneida County District Attorney's Office, 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.projectsafchildhood.gov.

Further information regarding this case can be obtained by contacting Assistant U.S. Attorney Tamara B. Thomson at (315) 448-0672.