



U.S. Department of Justice

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NEWS RELEASE

United States Attorney Richard S. Hartunian, announced that FLAY ROOD, age 58, of Utica, New York, was sentenced in federal district court today pursuant to his earlier plea of guilty to all counts of a six-count Indictment charging him with child exploitation offenses.

In today's proceeding, ROOD was sentenced to life imprisonment on each of three separate counts of producing child pornography relating to his convictions for producing sexually explicit images of a seven year old boy in January 2005, of a four year old boy in January 2008, and of a three year old boy in March 2008.

ROOD was also sentenced to concurrent terms of imprisonment of 15 years for distributing, and attempting to distribute child pornography over the Internet, 15 years for receiving child pornography over the Internet, and 10 years for possessing child pornography he obtained from the Internet.

Although a life sentence was imposed, the court ordered that should Rood ever be released from prison, he shall be placed on supervised release for the remainder of his life. In that event, he will also be required to register as a sex offender.

ROOD'S arrest is the result of an investigation by the Utica, New York Police Department

and the Oneida County District Attorney's Office - Child Advocacy Center. ROOD was prosecuted by the United States 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.projectsafechildhood.gov.

ROOD was prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Lisa Fletcher, who can be reached at 448-0672.