



Department of Justice

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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[Plattsburgh, New York]—United States Attorney Richard S. Hartunian and Homeland Security Investigations Special Agent in Charge James Spero, announce that CHRISTOPHER MORIN, age 40, of Massena, New York, was sentenced yesterday to 188 months imprisonment and a term of supervised release of life by Senior United States District Judge Thomas J. McAvoy sitting in Albany, New York.

On June 23, 2011, after a three day jury trial, MORIN was found guilty of Attempted Sexual Enticement of a Minor in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 2422(b).

MORIN was arrested on August 14, 2010, after an undercover investigation by Homeland Security Investigations. The undercover investigation began when federal agents obtained consent to assume control of a fifteen-year-old girl's cellular phone and Facebook account. From August 9, 2010 until August 14, 2010, MORIN exchanged more than 1,000 text messages with an undercover agent posing as the fifteen-year-old girl. MORIN was arrested after arriving at a gas station on the Saint Regis Mohawk Reservation believing he was going to meet the minor girl.

As part of the Court's judgment, MORIN is required to register as a sex offender and was order not to have contact with minors.

"The court's sentence clearly reflects the seriousness of the crime committed by Christopher Morin — an individual who held a position of public trust as a coach in his local community," said James Spero, special agent in charge of ICE's Homeland Security Investigations in Buffalo. "Our children have an absolute right to grow up free from the fear of sexual exploitation. Homeland Security Investigations, along with our law enforcement partners throughout New York, will not

tolerate such despicable crimes. Parents need to know that they can trust adults that have daily contact with their children. That is why law enforcement will continue to relentlessly pursue child predators to ensure they are held accountable for their despicable behavior."

The prosecution of MORIN was the result of a joint investigation with Homeland Security Investigations, the Massena Police Department, the Saint Regis Tribal Police and the New York State Police.

Any questions may be directed to Assistant U.S. Attorney Daniel C. Gardner in Plattsburgh, New York at 518-314-7800.