



Department of Justice

Acting United States Attorney Andrew T. Baxter

Northern District of New York

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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ANTHONY WATKINS PLEADS GUILTY

ALBANY, NY – Andrew T. Baxter, U.S. Attorney for the Northern District of New York; Robert M. Carney, Schenectady County District Attorney; and John F. Pikus, Special Agent In Charge, Federal Bureau of Investigation, Albany Division, announced today that ANTHONY WATKINS, age 49, of Schenectady, New York, pled guilty before Senior U.S. District Judge Lawrence E. Kahn in United States District Court to Count 1 of the pending indictment. Count 1 of the indictment charged WATKINS with knowingly transporting an individual who had not attained the age of 18 years in interstate commerce, with the intent that such individual engage in sexual activity for which any person can be charged with a criminal offense, in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 2423(a).

At his plea today, WATKINS admitted that between November 1, 2008, and November 2, 2008, he drove a fifteen year old female from Connecticut to Schenectady, New York, intending that the female engage in sexual intercourse with WATKINS in New York.

Sentencing was scheduled by Judge Kahn for March 18, 2009, in U.S. District Court in Albany. WATKINS faces a mandatory minimum sentence of 10 years in prison and a maximum sentence of life imprisonment, a fine of \$250,000.00, and a \$100.00 special assessment.

WATKINS remains in the custody of the United States Marshals Service.

The case was investigated by the Office of the Schenectady County District Attorney, the Schenectady County Sheriff's Office, the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the Schenectady Police Department, the Rotterdam Police Department, the New York State Police, and the Connecticut State Police.

CONTACT:

Nathaniel J. Dorfman
Assistant U.S. Attorney
(518) 431-0247