



Department of Justice

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<http://www.usdoj.gov/usao/nyn>

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FORMER FT. DRUM SOLDIER SENTENCED IN CHILD EXPLOITATION CASE

Syracuse, New York, —United States Attorney Richard S. Hartunian announced that a former Ft. Drum soldier was sentenced in federal court today following his plea of guilty earlier this summer to the crime of enticing minors to engage in unlawful sexual conduct.

JONATHAN McGEOCH, age 28, formerly of Ft. Drum, New York, was sentenced by United States District Judge Hon. Glenn T. Suddaby to 151 months in federal prison, to be followed by 20 years of supervised release.

As a part of his earlier guilty plea, McGEOCH admitted that he used a fictitious name on the Internet to meet a 15 year old Jefferson County boy through his Facebook account. McGEOCH began chatting with the child in a sexually explicit manner, including enticing the child to meet him for a sexual encounter. When the child's mother noticed the chats, she called the New York State Police. McGEOCH was arrested in the Town of LeRay on September 16, 2011 when he arrived at a gas station believing he was there to pick up the 15 year old, and a 13 year old friend of the child, to take them on a camping trip where he planned to engage them in sexual activity.

Prior to his arrest, McGEOCH had served as an Chaplin Assistant for the U.S. Army at Ft. Drum. Upon his release from imprisonment he will be required to register as a sex offender.

McGEOCH's arrest was the result of an investigation by the New York State Police, with the assistance of the United States Secret Service.

McGEOCH was prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Lisa Fletcher, who can be reached at 448-0672. The prosecution by the United States Attorney's Office is 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 <http://www.justice.gov/psc/>.