



*United States Attorney  
Southern District of New York*

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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**FORMER NATIONAL CHILDREN'S MUSEUM EMPLOYEE SENTENCED TO FIVE YEARS IN PRISON FOR DISTRIBUTING CHILD PORNOGRAPHY**

LEV L. DASSIN, the Acting United States Attorney for the Southern District of New York, announced that ROBERT A. SINGER was sentenced today to 60 months in prison for distributing child pornography over the Internet. The sentence was imposed in Manhattan federal court by United States District Judge RICHARD J. HOLWELL. SINGER, who formerly worked at the National Children's Museum in Washington, D.C., pleaded guilty to a count of distributing child pornography before United States magistrate Judge FRANK MAAS on March 10, 2009.

According to publicly filed documents in this case and statements made during SINGER's guilty plea and sentencing proceedings:

On August 3, 2007, SINGER entered a member-created AOL chat room called "Cuties." While in the "Cuties" chat room, SINGER distributed over the Internet several images depicting child pornography to a detective with the New York City Police Department ("NYPD") who was acting in an undercover capacity and posing as a thirty-three-year-old mother with two young girls.

SINGER initiated contact with the undercover detective by sending an instant message inquiring, "luv trading pics of cuties. like to trade some?" Over the next approximately two hours, SINGER sent, over the Internet, thirty-four electronic images to the undercover detective, at least nine of which depicted child pornography. One of the individuals depicted in the images that SINGER distributed has been identified as a known victim of child exploitation by the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children.

During his plea allocution, SINGER acknowledged that he emailed child pornography to an undercover law enforcement officer, that he was aware that the images that he sent were of somebody under the age of 18, and that he realized what he was

doing was against the law.

In addition to the prison term, Judge HOLWELL sentenced SINGER, 50, of Falls Church, VA, to 5 years of supervised release, and ordered him to pay a fine in the amount of \$12,500.

Mr. DASSIN praised the investigative work of the Department of Homeland Security's U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement and the NYPD in this case. He also thanked the Bronx District Attorney's Office, which referred the case to this Office, for its help and cooperation.

Assistant United States Attorney JOHN P. CRONAN is in charge of the prosecution.

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