



*United States Attorney
Southern District of New York*

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
JULY 1, 2011

CONTACT: U.S. ATTORNEY'S OFFICE
HERBERT HADAD, ELLEN DAVIS,
CARLY SULLIVAN,
JERIKA RICHARDSON
PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICE
(914) 993-1900, (212) 637-2600

NYPD
PAUL BROWNE
PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICE
(646) 610-8989

FBI
JAMES MARGOLIN, TIM FLANNELLY
PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICE
(212) 384-2100

**MANHATTAN U.S. ATTORNEY CHARGES RADIOLOGY TECHNICIAN
FROM WHITE PLAINS WITH CHILD PORNOGRAPHY POSSESSION,
RECEIPT AND DISTRIBUTION**

PREET BHARARA, the United States Attorney for the Southern District of New York, RAYMOND W. KELLY, the Police Commissioner of the City of New York ("NYPD"), and JANICE K. FEDARCYK, the Assistant Director-in-Charge of the New York Field Office of the Federal Bureau of Investigation ("FBI"), announced today the arrest of ALEXSANDR MKRTCHYAN on charges of possessing, receiving and distributing child pornography. MKRTCHYAN, 28, was arrested today by NYPD detectives and FBI agents, and presented in White Plains federal court before U.S. Magistrate Judge LISA MARGARET SMITH.

According to the criminal Complaint filed in White Plains federal court and statements made during today's court proceeding:

MKRTCHYAN shared and downloaded pornography through a peer-to-peer networking program on the Internet. Specifically, in May and June of this year, an undercover law enforcement agent downloaded approximately 2,700 images of child pornography from MKRTCHYAN. Prior to the arrest, law enforcement agents seized computers and computer equipment from MKRTCHYAN's White Plains residence. MKRTCHYAN currently works as a radiology technician at a hospital in the New York metropolitan area.

MKRTCHYAN is charged with one count of possessing child pornography and one count of receiving and distributing child pornography. Upon conviction, the first count carries a maximum sentence of 10 years in prison and a maximum fine of \$250,000 or twice the gross gain or loss from the offense. The second count carries a mandatory minimum sentence of 5 years, a maximum sentence of 20 years in prison and a maximum fine of \$250,000 or twice the gross gain or loss from the offense.

MKRTCHYAN was released this afternoon subject to bail conditions that included a requirement that he avoid any unsupervised contact with children, including at his place of employment.

Mr. BHARARA praised the outstanding investigative work of the NYPD and the FBI. He added that the investigation is continuing.

Mr. BHARARA requests that any individuals with relevant information contact the Federal Bureau of Investigation in White Plains, New York, at (914) 989-6000.

The prosecution is being handled by the Office's White Plains Division. Assistant United States Attorney ANDREW BAUER is in charge of the prosecution.

The charges contained in the Complaint are merely accusations, and the defendant is presumed innocent unless and until proven guilty.

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