



*United States Attorney
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**U.S. ARRESTS CONVICTED RAPIST FOR
FAILING TO REGISTER AS A SEX OFFENDER**

MICHAEL J. GARCIA, the United States Attorney for the Southern District of New York, JOSEPH R. GUCCIONE, the United States Marshal for the Southern District of New York, and RAYMOND W. KELLY, the Police Commissioner of the City of New York, announced today the arrest of EDWARD BARNES for failing to register as a sex offender in violation of the federal Adam Walsh Act, 18 U.S.C. § 2250. This is the first arrest and prosecution in the Southern District of New York for violations of The Adam Walsh Act, which was enacted in 2006. According to the Complaint filed on March 1, 2007 in Manhattan federal court:

BARNES was convicted in Bronx County Supreme Court on October 12, 2000 of rape in the second degree, as a result of repeated sexual assaults by BARNES on an 11-year old girl. BARNES is required under New York Law to register as a sex offender, and to update his New York registration to indicate his new address if he leaves New York. New Jersey law also requires sex offenders such as BARNES to register if they move to the state.

After BARNES was released from New-York-State prison in 2002, he was required to submit annual verification letters to either the state's Sexual Offender's Monitoring Unit ("SOMU") or

the New York State Sex Offender Registry. Out of the six years that BARNES was required to submit the annual verification letter, he failed to submit any letter for three of those years. As a result, BARNES was arrested in April 2005 and charged with failure to register as a sex offender in Bronx County Criminal Court.

In January 2007, officers of the SOMU learned that BARNES again failed to submit his required annual registration information. After further investigation, it was discovered that BARNES had been residing in New Jersey without updating his information with New York authorities or registering in New Jersey as required by law, a violation of the Adam Walsh Act.

BARNES was arrested on February 28, 2007 by officers of the SOMU and the United States Marshal's Service in the Bronx, New York. He was presented before the United States Magistrate Judge Douglas Eaton yesterday and was detained. If convicted, BARNES faces a maximum sentence of 10 years' imprisonment.

Mr. GARCIA praised the efforts of the officers of the SOMU, the United States Marshals Service, and the New York Police Department in the investigation of this case.

Assistant United States Attorney TODD BLANCHE 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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