United States Attorney
Southern District of New York

43-YEAR-OLD MAN SENTENCED IN WHITE PLAINS FEDERAL COURT TO 120 MONTHS IN PRISON FOR ATTEMPTING TO ENTICE A 15-YEAR-OLD GIRL FOR SEXUAL ACTIVITY

PREET BHARARA, the United States Attorney for the Southern District of New York, announced that LUIS ANTONIO REBUTTI, 43, was sentenced today to 120 months in prison for using the internet to attempt to entice, induce, and persuade an undercover officer posing as a 15-year-old girl to meet the defendant for the purpose of engaging in sexual activity. Sentence was imposed by United States District Judge CATHY SEIBEL in White Plains federal court. She also imposed a term of 5 years of supervised release.

According to the Information and statements made during the defendant's guilty plea on December 1, 2009:

In early January 2009, REBUTTI contacted, using instant messaging, an America On-Line profile maintained by an undercover detective with the Westchester County Police Department. In the profile, the detective posed as a 15-year-old girl. Over the course of several weeks, the defendant communicated, using instant messaging and emails, with the detective. During those communications, REBUTTI attempted to persuade, induce, and entice the undercover detective to engage in sexual activity with him. REBUTTI told the detective to pretend that she was 18 years old, instead of 15. On or about January 20, 2009, the defendant went to the Eldorado Diner on the border of Elmsford and Tarrytown, New York, to meet the 15-year-old girl for the purposes of engaging in sexual activity with her, and was arrested.

Mr. BHARARA praised the investigative work of the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the Westchester County Department of Public Safety.

Assistant United States Attorney SARAH R. KRISSOFF is
in charge of the prosecution.

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