



*United States Attorney
Southern District of New York*

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
MAY 4, 2011

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

ICE
LORIE DANKERS
(206) 793-8755

**MANHATTAN U.S. ATTORNEY CHARGES YONKERS MAN
WITH CHILD PORNOGRAPHY POSSESSION AND DISTRIBUTION**

PREET BHARARA, the United States Attorney for the Southern District of New York, and JAMES T. HAYES, JR., the Special Agent-in-Charge of the New York Office of the Department of Homeland Security's Immigration and Customs Enforcement ("ICE"), announced the arrest yesterday of RICKY VALENCIA on child pornography charges. VALENCIA, 24, was arrested at his Yonkers, New York, residence by ICE agents. He was presented before U.S. Magistrate Judge PAUL E. DAVISON in White Plains federal court, and ordered detained without bail.

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

On September 29, 2010, an ICE agent downloaded numerous images depicting child pornography from a computer utilizing an IP address registered to VALENCIA's residence. Subsequently, VALENCIA admitted to law enforcement officers that he used peer-to-peer file sharing software to download child pornography, and officers seized VALENCIA's laptop computer. VALENCIA also admitted to taking pornographic pictures of a minor. A forensic analysis of the laptop revealed that VALENCIA had videos of minor children engaging in sexually explicit conduct saved on the laptop.

* * *

VALENCIA is charged with one count of receipt and distribution of child pornography, which carries a maximum sentence of 20 years in prison, a mandatory minimum sentence of 5 years in prison, and a maximum fine of \$250,000 or twice the

gross gain or loss from the offense; and one count of possessing child pornography, which 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 prosecution is being handled by the Office's White Plains Division. Assistant U.S. Attorney SARAH R. KRISOFF is in charge of the prosecution.

Mr. BHARARA thanked ICE for its efforts in this investigation, which he said is continuing.

ICE encourages the public to report suspected child predators and any suspicious activity through its toll-free hotline at 1-866-347-2423. This hotline is staffed around the clock by investigators.

Suspected child sexual exploitation or missing children may be reported to the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children, an Operation Predator partner, at 1-800-843-5678 or <http://www.cybertipline.com>.

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

11-120

###