

Department of Justice

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Western District of New York

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ONTARIO COUNTY MAN SENTENCED FOR RECEIVING CHILD PORNOGRAPHY

ROCHESTER, N.Y.-- U.S. Attorney William J. Hochul, Jr. announced today that Chad Crowley, 27, of Clifton Springs, N.Y., who was convicted of receipt of child pornography, was sentenced to 60 months in prison and 10 years supervised release by U.S. District Judge David G. Larimer.

Assistant U.S. Attorney Tiffany H. Lee, who is handling the case, stated that in February 2011, Crowley exchanged sexually explicit text messages with a 13-year-old female. The messages included sexually explicit images the defendant received from the female. Crowley knew the female was a minor.

"This case is another example of why it is so important for parents to monitor the cell phone usage of their children," said U.S. Attorney Hochul. "Children are vulnerable and can unknowingly be taken advantage of by individuals attempting to exploit them. The best defense is for parents is to keep a close eye on exactly who their children are communicating with, not just on a cell phone but on the computer or any other electronic media as well."

This case was brought as part of Project Safe Childhood, a nationwide initiative to combat the growing epidemic of child sexual exploitation and abuse launched in May 2006 by the Department of Justice. Led by United States Attorneys' Offices and the Criminal Division's Child Exploitation and Obscenity Section (CEOS), Project Safe Childhood marshals federal, state and local resources to better locate, apprehend and prosecute individuals who exploit children via the Internet, as well as to identify and rescue victims. For more information about Project Safe Childhood, please visit www.projectsafechildhood.gov.

The sentencing is the culmination of an investigation on the part of Immigration and Customs Enforcement, Homeland Security Investigations, under the direction of James C. Spero, Special Agent in Charge, Investigators from the New York State Police, under the direction of Major mark Koss and the Ontario County District Attorney's Office, under the direction of Michael Tantillo.

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