



Department of Justice

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Western District of Texas

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30-YEAR FEDERAL PRISON TERM HANDED DOWN TO NEW BRAUNFELS MAN IN CHILD PORNOGRAPHY CASE

In San Antonio this morning, 65-year-old Charles Leroy Earl was sentenced to 30 years in federal prison for distribution of child pornography announced United States Attorney Robert Pitman and Immigration and Customs Enforcement Homeland Security Investigations (ICE-HSI) Special Agent in Charge Jerry Robinette.

Based on information gathered from an undercover online session conducted by the Beaumont Police Department, on October 4, 2011, ICE-HSI agents executed a search warrant at the defendant's residence and seized approximately two dozen computers and related media. A subsequent forensics examination of the seized items revealed the presence of more than 10,000 videos and 62,000 images depicting child pornography. Earl pleaded guilty to the distribution charge on June 12, 2012.

"This prosecution involved not only a vast amount of child pornography, but an offender who had demonstrated a proclivity for actually abusing children himself. He will, in all likelihood, spend the rest of his life in prison, which is apparently the only place where offenders like him can be prevented from preying upon vulnerable children," stated United States Attorney Robert Pitman.

"Child exploitation is one of the most heinous crimes we investigate. HSI and our law enforcement partners were able to quickly respond to this situation and prevent Charles Earl from trading and distributing this type of pornography that results from the victimization of children," said Vincent Iglio, deputy special agent in charge of HSI San Antonio. "HSI works diligently to ensure that child predators are prosecuted to the fullest extent of the law."

Assistant United States Attorney Tracy Thompson prosecuted this case on behalf of the Government.

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