



NEWS RELEASE

**KAREN L. LOEFFLER
UNITED STATES ATTORNEY
DISTRICT OF ALASKA**

Federal Building & U.S. Courthouse • 222 W. 7th Avenue • Room 253 • Anchorage, AK 99513 • (907) 271-5071

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Thursday, May 14, 2009**

09-046

**CALIFORNIA MAN SENTENCED TO 36 YEARS IN FEDERAL PRISON
FOR CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE AND CHILD EXPLOITATION CRIMES**

Anchorage, Alaska – United States Attorney Karen L. Loeffler announced that on May 12, 2009, Danny Michael Harvey, of Lancaster, California, was sentenced to 36 years in prison for his conviction of attempted aggravated sexual abuse, attempted manufacture of child pornography, transportation of child pornography, and possession of child pornography. A jury composed of seven men and five women found him guilty of these charges after his trial in November 2008.

Harvey, age 47, was sentenced by United States District Court Judge Ralph R. Beistline.

Assistant United States Attorneys Steven E. Skrocki and Kimberly Sayers-Fay, who prosecuted the case, introduced evidence at trial that proved that in June 2007, an undercover Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) Agent responded to Harvey’s post in pedophile-oriented chat rooms, where he was seeking access to “kink minded” families or young females. After the agent advised that he was a grandfather with sole custody of his five-year-old granddaughter and four-year-old grandson, Harvey conveyed his strong desire to sexually abuse the five-year-old girl, and he noted that he would be willing to travel for the “real thing,” especially if he could film or photograph the anticipated abuse. Less than a week later, Harvey bought an airline ticket, a laptop computer with a video camera, and toys to “break the ice” with the children. Before actually traveling to Anchorage, Harvey sought assurances that the agent was not law enforcement or part of any group that would report him for being a pedophile. When Harvey arrived in Alaska on August 18, 2007, he was promptly arrested by ICE Agents and Anchorage Police Department officers.

Harvey deplaned carrying a camera bag with numerous lenses and peripherals, a laptop computer and an iPod. After Harvey’s arrest, agents learned the laptop contained 11 video clips of child pornography and songs celebrating the molestation of young kids. Some of these same pornographic clips, plus two child pornography images and 72 child erotica images of prepubescent girls had been deleted from Harvey’s iPod. Harvey also brought sexual lubricants, sex aids, condoms and a CD entitled “Songs for Amy” with him to Alaska. Examination of Harvey’s laptop revealed that it contained 11 video clips of child pornography. Subsequent investigation of other electronic items revealed that Harvey had at one time 72 pictures of child erotica, primarily of preteen girls.

In sentencing Harvey, Judge Beistline labeled Harvey a “practicing, unrepentant pedophile with a predilection for young girls...who sunk as low as a human being can.”

Ms. Loeffler said, “Our office is pledged to support the Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force and to place these cases at the highest priority. We work hand in glove with agencies like ICE, the Alaska State Troopers, the Anchorage Police Department and other law enforcement who coordinate their efforts, as part of our office’s Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force. We vigorously pursue, prosecute and convict individuals like Mr. Harvey, who prey upon society’s most precious and vulnerable resources, its children. Given this conviction, Mr. Harvey will remain off the streets for the next 36 years and will then be on lifetime supervised release once he is released in 2045. As a result, he will never again pose a danger to our children.”

“Today's prison sentence should serve as a strong deterrent to anyone who would even consider sexually exploiting a child,” said Leigh Winchell, special agent in charge of ICE's office of investigation for Alaska. “ICE is dedicated to investigating those who prey on innocent children and we will continue to work closely with the U.S. Attorney's office as well as our state, local, and federal law enforcement partners to ensure that these predators are brought to justice.”

This case was brought as part of Project Safe Childhood, a nationwide initiative to combat 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 combines federal, state and local resources to better identify, 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.projectsafefchildhood.gov.

###