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MAN SENTENCED FOR MASSIVE CHILD PORNOGRAPHY COLLECTION

Child Porn Collector Made Baby Dolls of Tofu in Basement

Atlanta, GA - PHILIP GERRY, 58, of Mableton, Georgia, was sentenced today by Senior United States District Judge J. Owen Forrester to serve 12 years in prison on charges of receipt and possession of child pornography.

“This defendant’s collection of child pornography was one of the largest and most vile that we have ever seen,” said United States Attorney David E. Nahmias. “An especially disturbing component was that the defendant was making baby dolls using a kiln in his basement. He claimed he used the doll molds to bake tofu to eat. His child pornography collection of over 70,000 images, some of very young children being violently assaulted, was amassed over a period of 10 years. This defendant, and others like him, use the Internet to proliferate images of the violent sexual assault of children. Today, this sick marketplace has one less consumer. The sentence imposed today demonstrates once again that we will vigorously pursue long prison terms for child exploiters.”

“Today’s sentence represents another victory in our fight to protect our most vulnerable segment of society – our children,” said Kenneth A. Smith, Special Agent in Charge of the ICE Office of Investigations in Atlanta. “Through ICE’s national Operation Predator, ICE agents working alongside our law enforcement partners worldwide are making a significant impact in this important fight.”

GERRY was sentenced to 12 years in prison to be followed by 10 years of supervised release. There is no parole in the federal system. GERRY must also forfeit \$50,000 to the United States. GERRY was convicted of these charges on February 26, 2009, when he pleaded guilty.

According to United States Attorney Nahmias and the information presented in court: In October 2007, Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) agents discovered a Colorado man was operating a file-sharing server that, when searched, revealed that GERRY, in his Mableton home, had received images of child pornography from it. In January 2008, ICE agents searched GERRY’s home and discovered computer media containing more than 70,000 images and videos of child pornography, some of which depict very young children being sexually abused in very disturbing ways. Agents also discovered pamphlets advocating the sexual abuse of young girls, and stories about young girls being abused. They also found baby doll molds, parts of finished dolls, and a kiln, with which GERRY was making dolls. GERRY claimed that the molds were for him to make tofu babies to serve at dinner parties.

This case is being brought as part of Project Safe Childhood. In February 2006, the Attorney General launched Project Safe Childhood, a nationwide initiative designed to protect children from online exploitation and abuse. Led by the United States Attorney's Offices around the

country, Project Safe Childhood marshals federal, state and local resources to apprehend and prosecute individuals who exploit children via the Internet. For more information about Project Safe Childhood, please visit www.projectsafechildhood.gov.

This case was investigated by Special Agents of the Department of Homeland Security, Immigration and Customs Enforcement.

Assistant United States Attorney Francey Hakes prosecuted the case, with assistance from Assistant United States Attorney Mary Kruger.

For further information please contact David E. Nahmias (pronounced NAH-me-us), United States Attorney, or Charysse L. Alexander, Executive Assistant United States Attorney, through Patrick Crosby, Public Affairs Officer, U.S. Attorney's Office, at (404) 581-6016. The Internet address for the HomePage for the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Northern District of Georgia is www.usdoj.gov/usao/gan.