



Department of Justice

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MONTANA MAN SENTENCED FOR POSSESSION OF CHILD PORNOGRAPHY

BILLINGS – Gary Doerr, a 49-year-old resident of Helena, was sentenced yesterday to a term of 18 months in federal prison in connection with his guilty plea to possession of child pornography. Doerr was also ordered to pay a special assessment of \$100, forfeit his computer equipment, and will be under supervision for 20 years.

In an Offer of Proof filed by the United States, the government stated it would have proved at trial the following:

On October 3, 2005, the Helena Crimestoppers Office received a phone call from a caller alleging that Doerr had a computer disk that had child pornography on it at his residence in Helena. Two law enforcement officers went to Doerr's residence to speak with him about the allegations.

Doerr gave verbal and written consent for the officers to search his computer, which they did. No child pornography was found on the computer. The officers asked Doerr about any disks that he had that might contain child pornography and he retrieved a Zipdisk titled "Private Collection." Doerr advised that he had received the child pornography on the disk via the Internet some years ago while residing in Idaho. The agents viewed the images on the disk and found child pornography. Doerr detailed for the agents how he came to be in possession of the child pornography and gave a hand-written confession.

The computer disk in question was forensically searched and items of mostly male child pornography were located. The images included children clearly under the age of 12, and included images of sadistic or masochistic abuse or images of violence. The images included pictures of infants and toddlers being penetrated, and also included a number of images of previously identified victims.

Because there is no parole in the federal system, the "truth in sentencing" guidelines mandate that Doerr will likely serve **all** of the time imposed by the court. In the federal system, Doerr does have the opportunity to earn a sentence reduction for "good behavior." However, this reduction will not exceed 15% of the overall sentence.

The investigation was conducted by the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the Helena Police Department. Assistant United States Attorney Marcia K. Hurd prosecuted the case.

This case was brought as part of Project Safe Childhood. In February 2006, Attorney General Alberto R. Gonzales created Project Safe Childhood, a nationwide initiative designed to protect children from online exploitation and abuse. Led by the United States Attorneys' Offices, 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 identify and rescue victims. For more information about Project Safe Childhood, please visit www.projectsafechildhood.gov/.

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