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U.S. Attorney's Office
Southern District of Texas

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CORPUS CHRISTI MAN SENTENCED TO PRISON FOR RECEIVING AND DISTRIBUTING CHILD PORNOGRAPHY

(CORPUS CHRISTI, Texas) – A Corpus Christi resident has been sentenced to prison for receiving and distributing child pornography, United States Attorney Tim Johnson announced today.

Jesus Celeri Sancheznoriega, also known as Jesus Celeri Sanchez, 33, was sentenced to 109 months in federal prison to be followed by a ten-year-term of supervised release by United States District Judge Hayden Head following a late afternoon sentencing hearing held Tuesday, June 30, 2009. Sancheznoriega, who has been in custody without bond since his December 2008 arrest, was previously convicted of receiving and distributing child pornography.

During yesterday's hearing, the court heard testimony from a Corpus Christi Police Department computer forensic examiner regarding the extent and content of Sancheznoriega's child pornography collection on or about Nov. 30, 2008. In pronouncing sentence, the court considered that testimony and determined Sancheznoriega received and possessed 57 videos of child pornography. Sixteen of those videos depicted the sexual penetration of children less than 12 years of age with two of the 12 videos depicting the sexual assault of children less than six years old. The court also considered the letters submitted by one of the victims depicted in some of the photographs in Sancheznoriega's collection and her family. In the letters, the victim told of the overwhelming fear and pain she has suffered from the time the abuse was filmed to the present day, poignantly detailing the true harm and enduring victimization child pornography creates.

In handing down its sentence, the court recognizing the need to protect the public and address the current and continuing harm to the existing victims today and those who may be victimized in future by the behavior of persons engaged in the receipt and distribution and possession of child pornography. Sancheznoriega has also been ordered to register as a sex offender.

This case which was investigated by the FBI and the Corpus Christi Police Department 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, 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.projectsafefchildhood.gov.

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