



Department of Justice

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CAPE GIRARDEAU COUNTY MAN SENTENCED TO OVER SIX YEARS IN FEDERAL PRISON FOR POSSESSION OF CHILD PORNOGRAPHY

CAPE GIRARDEAU, MO - United States Attorney Catherine L. Hanaway announced today that a Cape Girardeau County man was sentenced to prison on a felony child pornography charge.

Joshua J. Rideout, 26, of Naylor, Missouri, was sentenced to a total of 78 months imprisonment on one felony count of possession of child pornography. Upon release from prison, Rideout will be placed on supervised release for 10 years. He appeared before U.S. District Judge Jean C. Hamilton on Monday, August 28, 2006 in Cape Girardeau.

Previously with his plea, Rideout admitted that on April 2, 2005, he possessed images of child pornography. The images were stored on compact discs and the defendant's hard drives. Analysis of the computer related items revealed that the defendant possessed more than 600 images of child pornography. Furthermore, some of the images contained sadistic or masochistic conduct.

This case was charged 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/.

Hanaway commended the United States Secret Service, the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children, as well as the Cape Girardeau Police Department for their combined efforts to prosecute this case. United States Attorney Abbie Crites-Leoni handled the prosecution for the Government.

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