



Department of Justice

United States Attorney Catherine L. Hanaway
Eastern District of Missouri

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
THURSDAY, MARCH 1, 2007
www.usdoj.gov/usao/moe

CONTACT: Jan Diltz
Phone (314) 539-7719
Fax (314) 539-2309

MICHAEL J. DEVLIN INDICTED ON FEDERAL CHILD PORNOGRAPHY CHARGES

ST. LOUIS – Michael J. Devlin has been indicted on federal charges of production of child pornography and transportation of a minor for a criminal sex act, U.S. Attorney Catherine L. Hanaway of the Eastern District of Missouri announced today.

Devlin, 41, of Kirkwood, Mo., was indicted by a federal grand jury earlier today on four felony counts of production of child pornography and two felony counts of transportation of a minor for a criminal sex act.

U.S. Attorney Hanaway was joined in today's announcement by FBI Assistant Special Agent in Charge Steve Gomez; Kirkwood Police Lieutenant Bob Kosan; Washington County Prosecuting Attorney John Rupp; Franklin County Prosecuting Attorney Bob Parks; and Franklin County Sheriff Gary Toelke.

“These federal charges are the result of the joint federal, state and local investigation of the recent abductions,” said U.S. Attorney Hanaway. “We will continue to work with state prosecutors to ensure that Mr. Devlin spends the rest of his life in prison.”

The indictment alleges that between October 2002 and July 2003, Devlin photographed a minor engaging in sexually explicit conduct. Additionally, the indictment charges that between July 2003 and January 2007, Devlin videotaped a minor engaging in sexually explicit conduct. In February 2004, Devlin allegedly took a minor to Illinois with the intent to engage in criminal sexual assault. Devlin is also charged with taking a minor to Arizona between June 20 and July 3, 2004, with the intent to engage in sexual assault.

If convicted on the first pornography count, the defendant could receive 10 to 20 years in prison and/or fines up to \$250,000. Counts two, three and four each carry a penalty range of 15 to 30 years in prison and/or fines of up to \$250,000. Counts five and six, transportation for purpose of criminal sex acts, carry a range of five years to 30 years prison and/or fines up to \$250,000, per count.

This case is being brought as part of Project Safe Childhood. In February 2006, Attorney General Alberto R. Gonzales announced Project Safe Childhood, a nationwide initiative designed to protect children from online exploitation and abuse. Led by the U.S. 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/.

U.S. Attorney Hanaway commended the work on the case by the FBI, the Missouri Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force, the Regional Computer Crimes Education and Enforcement Group, the St. Louis County Police, and Assistant U.S. Attorneys Carrie Costantin and Reginald Harris, who are handling the case for the U.S. Attorney's Office.

The charges set forth in an indictment are merely accusations, and each defendant is presumed innocent until and unless proven guilty.

###