



Department of Justice

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EUGENE RESIDENT SENTENCED IN CHILD PORNOGRAPHY CASE

*Christopher Lyn Sparks is sentenced to a 51 month term of imprisonment
for possessing child pornography*

Eugene, Ore. – Christopher Lyn Sparks, 41, a resident of Eugene, Oregon, was sentenced by United States District Judge Ann Aiken to serve a 51 month term of imprisonment for possessing child pornography. The United States Attorney for the District of Oregon, Karin J. Immergut, announced that Sparks pled guilty to possessing child pornography on May 26, 2006. Before being charged in this case, Sparks lived at 4175 Quest Drive, #113, in Eugene, Oregon. Upon release from custody, he will serve a three-year term of supervised release.

In pleading guilty to the distribution of child pornography offense, Sparks admitted that on January 10, 2006, he possessed child pornography that he had received through the Internet. The case arose from a Federal Bureau of Investigation undercover investigation into the trading of child pornography through the Internet. Sparks was identified by his access to Web sites containing child pornography, and his computer was later searched by agents with the Federal Bureau of Investigation. In pleading guilty to possessing child pornography, Sparks agreed that the child pornography he possessed contained images depicting prepubescent minors or minors under the age of twelve years; the possession of the material resulted from his use of a computer; and the child pornography he possessed involved 600 or more images.

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.projectsafchildhood.gov.

The investigation was conducted by the Federal Bureau of Investigation with assistance from Immigrations and Customs Enforcement. For further information, contact Assistant United States Attorney Sean B. Hoar at 541-465-6771.