



Department of Justice

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Western District of Wisconsin

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
FEBRUARY 14, 2007
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**LA VALLE MAN INDICTED ON
CHILD PORNOGRAPHY CHARGES**

MADISON, WISCONSIN - Kevin G. Mealer, 41, of La Valle, Wisconsin, is charged in a two-count indictment with possessing two computer hard drives that contained visual depictions of minors engaging in sexually explicit conduct, and with transporting by computer a visual depiction of a minor engaging in sexually explicit conduct. The indictment alleges that he possessed the two hard drives on August 17, 2004, and that the transportation of the visual depiction occurred on January 14, 2004.

If convicted, Mealer faces a maximum penalty of 10 years in federal prison for the possession charge, and not less than five years, nor more than 20 years, on the distribution charge. The charges against him are the result of an investigation by the Wisconsin Department of Justice, Division of Criminal Investigation. The prosecution of this case has been assigned to Assistant U.S. Attorney Timothy M. O'Shea.

This case is being brought as part of Project Safe Childhood. In February 2006, Attorney General Alberto R. Gonzales launched 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/.

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