



Department of Justice

Acting United States Attorney Michael W. Reap
Eastern District of Missouri

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For Immediate Release

PALMYRA, MO MAN INDICTED ON FEDERAL CHILD PORNOGRAPHY CHARGES

St. Louis, MO: Shannon Maas was indicted on federal charges of receipt and possession child pornography, Acting United States Attorney Michael W. Reap announced today.

Maas, 31, Palmyra, MO, was indicted by a federal grand jury on one felony count of receipt of child pornography and two felony counts of possession of child pornography.

The indictment alleges that Maas received child pornography over the Internet and possessed child pornography on two different computers.

If convicted, receipt of child pornography carries a maximum penalty of twenty years in prison and/or fines up to \$250,000 and possession of child pornography carries a maximum penalty of ten years in prison and/or fines up to \$250,000.

This case is 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 (CEOS), 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.projectsafchildhood.gov.

Reap commended the work on the case the Palmyra Police Department, the Missouri Internet Crimes Against Children (ICAC) and the Regional Computer Crimes Education and Enforcement Group (RCCEEG); and Assistant United States Attorney Tiffany Becker, who is 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.