



Department of Justice

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**DENT COUNTY MAN SENTENCED TO FEDERAL PRISON ON CHILD
PORNOGRAPHY CHARGES**

St. Louis, MO: Dennis Wright was sentenced to 15 years in prison and lifetime supervised release this morning on federal charges of producing and possessing child pornography, United States Attorney Catherine L. Hanaway of the Eastern District of Missouri announced today.

Between June 2005 and August 2007, Wright used a minor to engage in sexually explicit conduct which he videotaped surreptitiously. In October 2005, Wright used a different minor to engage in sexually explicit conduct, which he also videotaped surreptitiously. The minors were unaware of his conduct. Additionally, in August 2007, Wright possessed multiple computer images containing child pornography which he had downloaded to his computer and different computer CDs.

Wright, 49, Salem, MO, pled guilty in March to two felony counts of production of child pornography and four felony counts of possession of child pornography. He appeared this morning for sentencing before United States District Judge Stephen Limbaugh, in St. Louis.

This case was brought as part of Project Safe Childhood. In February 2006, the Department of Justice 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.projectsafechildhood.gov/.