



Department of Justice

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Eastern District of Texas

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TYLER MAN SENTENCED FOR CHILD PORNOGRAPHY

TYLER TX – United States Attorney John L. Ratcliffe announced today that a 51-year-old Tyler man has been sentenced to 46 months in federal prison for possessing material involving the sexual exploitation of minors in the Eastern District of Texas.

STEVEN NEIL JOHNSON was sentenced today by United States District Judge Michael Schneider.

According to information presented in court, on September 1, 2006, law enforcement authorities seized a computer from Johnson's Tyler residence during the execution of a federal search warrant. A forensic analysis of the computer revealed more than 50 visual depictions involving minors engaged in sexually explicit conduct.

This case is part of Project Safe Childhood (PSC). 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 information about Project Safe Childhood, visit www.projectsafechildhood.gov/.

The case was investigated by the United States Secret Service and the Longview Police Department and was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Gregg A. Marchessault.

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