



Department of Justice

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KILGORE MAN SENTENCED FOR CHILD PORNOGRAPHY VIOLATIONS

TYLER, TX – U.S. Attorney John M. Bales announced today that a 31-year-old Kilgore, Texas man has been sentenced to federal prison for child pornography violations in the Eastern District of Texas.

DARIN WILLIAMSON pleaded guilty to an Information on Aug. 25, 2009, charging him with possession of child pornography and was sentenced today to 78 months in federal prison by U.S. District Judge Michael Schneider. Williamson also agreed to the forfeiture of his computer equipment.

According to information presented in court, on Feb. 11, 2009, Williamson knowingly possessed computer equipment at his Kilgore residence that contained over 1600 visual depictions and 21 videos of minors engaging in sexually explicit conduct. Many of the images involved minors under the age of 12.

This case was 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.projectsafefchildhood.gov.

This case was investigated by the U.S. Secret Service and the Longview Police Department's Cyber Crimes Unit and prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Bill Baldwin.

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