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Veneta Man Sentenced to 10 Years in Prison for Possessing Child Pornography

Eugene, Ore. — Thomas Wesley Boren, 64, of Veneta, Oregon, was sentenced to serve a 10-year term of imprisonment today by United States District Court Judge Michael Hogan for possessing child pornography. Mr. Boren pleaded guilty on April 10, 2007, to knowingly possessing computer disks and data storage media which contained visual depictions of actual minors engaged in sexually explicit conduct.

The case arose from an undercover investigation into the distribution of child pornography via the Internet. A search warrant was later served at Mr. Boren's residence and hundreds of images and dozens of videos containing child pornography were found on his computer. At his sentencing hearing, Mr. Boren was found to have possessed over 600 images of actual minors engaged in sexually explicit conduct on computer disks and data storage media. He was also found to have distributed child pornography in order to obtain more child pornography via the Internet. The images were found to portray sadistic and masochistic conduct and other depictions of violence.

Upon release from custody, Mr. Boren will serve a three-year period of supervised release. During his supervised release, he must abide by a number of conditions which include mental health counseling, restricted access to computers and the Internet, and registration as a sex offender.

The case was investigated by Immigration and Customs Enforcement. The U. S. Attorney's Office continues to prosecute cases such as these as part of Project Safe Childhood. In February 2006, the U.S. Department of Justice created Project Safe Childhood, a nationwide initiative designed to protect children from online exploitation and abuse. Led by the United States Attorney's 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.