



UNITED STATES ATTORNEY'S OFFICE EASTERN DISTRICT OF VIRGINIA

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University Professor Indicted on Child Pornography Charges

(Alexandria, VA) – Lawrence Scott Ward, age 64, of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, was charged today with a three count indictment alleging that he produced, imported, and possessed visual depictions of minors engaged in sexually explicit conduct in violation of federal law. Chuck Rosenberg, United States Attorney for the Eastern District of Virginia, also announced that Ward will be arraigned on November 9, 2006, before United States District Judge Leonie M. Brinkema.

The charge of producing child pornography for importation into the United States carries a minimum mandatory sentence of 15 years in prison and a maximum sentence of 30 years in prison. Importation of child pornography carries a sentence of five to 20 years in prison and possession of child pornography carries a sentence of up to ten years incarceration.

Ward has been held in custody since his arrest on August 27, 2006. According to the arrest affidavit, Ward, a professor at the University of Pennsylvania, Wharton School of Business, arrived at Dulles International Airport from Brazil with DVDs and computer video files of himself engaging in sex acts with minor boys.

The case was investigated by special agents of the Department of Homeland Security, Immigrations and Custom Enforcement. The prosecution of the case is being handled by Assistant United States Attorneys Edmund P. Power and Gerald J. Smagala.

Criminal indictments are only charges and not evidence of guilt. A defendant is presumed to be innocent until and unless proven guilty.

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