



PRESS RELEASE

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December 8, 2006

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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CLARKSVILLE MAN ENTERS GUILTY PLEA FOR CONSPIRACY
TO DISTRIBUTE CHILD PORNOGRAPHY

Nashville, TN - December 8, 2006 - Royal Raymond Weller, a Clarksville, Tennessee resident, entered a guilty plea yesterday to Conspiracy to Distribute Child Pornography, Distribution of Child Pornography, Receipt of Child Pornography, and Possession of Child Pornography, in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Sections 2252A(a)(1), 2252(a)(2)(A), and 2252(a)(5)(B). Weller was one of many individuals who were charged in an international child pornography investigation that culminated in multiple arrests in March of this year, announced Craig S. Morford, United States Attorney for the Middle District of Tennessee. Following his arrest, Weller was charged in an eight count indictment and entered a guilty plea to all counts on December 7, 2006.

According to testimony, during the plea hearing, Weller was the host, or owner, of an Internet chat room with the name "Kiddiepics & Kiddievids." Weller's online user name for purposes of

hosting this room was “G.O.D.” Defendant and other upper level users or administrators worked together to shape the conversation of the room according to their preferences, which included promoting the trading of child pornography and simultaneously evading detection by law enforcement officials. Many users and administrators had conversations about trading child pornography, as well as their own involvement in sexual molestation. The child pornography discussed on the chat room included discussions of sexually explicit conduct involving prepubescent children, some of which included bondage and bestiality.

When offering to share child pornography, Weller would enter the chat room using a different identity, “Devil666.” Defendant often had well over 1000 images and videos of child sexual abuse available for trade, and he had approximately 10,000 files in his child pornography collection on his computer and hard drives. For at least two and a half years, defendant had knowingly been engaged in the distribution, receipt, and possession of sexually explicit images and videos of children under the age of eighteen, some as young as infants. In various conversations on this chat room, Weller boasted that he had possession of 78 gigabytes of such materials and stated that he preferred girls between the ages of 8 and 13. Weller admitted to investigators that he was attracted to girls going through puberty and that he had surreptitiously taken photographs of children in public locations.

These charges were brought following an international investigation conducted by members of the Immigration and Customs Enforcement Agency and law enforcement officers in other countries.

"There are few if any crimes more revolting than those involving the sexual exploitation of vulnerable young children. These crimes rob our children of their innocence and leave a wake of victims scarred, both physically and emotionally, for life. It is no accident that this defendant called

himself 'Devil666.' and it will take nothing short of a dedicated effort on the part of all segments of society--our communities, our schools, our families, our law enforcement agencies and our courts--to stop the spread of this cancer." According to United States Attorney Craig Morford.

The sentencing hearing in this case has been set for March 2, 2007 at 10:00 a.m. Weller is facing between 5 and 150 years of incarceration for these crimes.

The case is being prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney S. Carran Daughtrey

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