



UNITED STATES ATTORNEY'S OFFICE EASTERN DISTRICT OF VIRGINIA

ALEXANDRIA NEWPORT NEWS NORFOLK RICHMOND

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Former Ivy League Professor Sentenced in Child Pornography Case

(Alexandria, VA) - Lawrence Scott Ward, age 64, of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, was sentenced today by United States District Judge Leonie M. Brinkema to 15 years in prison after being convicted of producing child pornography for importation into the United States. Chuck Rosenberg, United States Attorney for the Eastern District of Virginia, and William Reid, Special Agent-in-Charge, Washington Field Office, U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement, made the announcement.

According to court documents, on August 27, 2006, Ward, a former professor at the University of Pennsylvania, Wharton School of Business, arrived at Dulles International Airport aboard a direct flight from Brazil. A Customs and Border Protection Officer searched Ward's luggage and computer during a routine customs examination and discovered child pornography on the computer. Further examination revealed multiple DVD's containing movies of Ward engaging in sexual intercourse with a minor boy. Ward pleaded guilty on February 20, 2007 and has been held in custody since his arrest on August 27, 2006. Ward was also ordered to serve a term of three years of supervised release after his incarceration and to pay a fine of \$17,500.

In announcing the sentence, United States Attorney Rosenberg stated, "As this case demonstrates, individuals who exploit our children come from all walks of life. We will continue to be vigilant in protecting those who cannot protect themselves."

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 more information about Project Safe Childhood, please visit <http://www.projectsafechildhood.gov>.

"These are some of the vilest crimes against our children to be prosecuted. The sentence today gives us great satisfaction because we know that he will not be free to harm another child," said Special Agent-in-Charge Reid.

The case was investigated by Immigration and Customs Enforcement. The prosecution of the case was handled by Assistant United States Attorneys Edmund P. Power and Gerald J. Smagala.

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