



# UNITED STATES ATTORNEY'S OFFICE EASTERN DISTRICT OF VIRGINIA

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

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## **Defendant Sentenced to Nine Years in Child Pornography Case**

**(Richmond, VA)** - Michael Alan Ovren, age 56, of Bumpass, Virginia, was sentenced today by United States District Court Judge Robert E. Payne to nine years in federal prison, and five years of supervised release, following his conviction for Distribution of Child Pornography. Chuck Rosenberg, United States Attorney for the Eastern District of Virginia; and Nancy Nelson, Acting Special Agent-In-Charge, Federal Bureau of Investigation, Richmond Division announced the sentencing.

Ovren pled guilty to the charges on January 7, 2008. In support of his plea, he has admitted that he used the Google "Hello" program to engage in an on-line chat with another individual on the Internet. "Hello" is a peer-to-peer (P2P) internet chat program offered by Google that allows Internet users to chat on-line. The "Hello" program is designed to allow fellow users of the program to trade digital files through a worldwide network that is formed by linking computers together on the internet. On July 8, 2005, using "Hello" and operating under the name "va7bigbopper," Ovren conversed with another "Hello" user referred to as \*\*\*\*\*ur83 (redacted). During the "Hello" chat with \*\*\*\*\*ur83, Ovren distributed an image of child pornography that had previously been transported from England to the United States. This image depicted a female minor performing oral sex on an adult male. Ovren has admitted to distributing and transferring possession of the photograph to \*\*\*\*\*ur83 via the internet by using his computer. At the time he distributed the image, Ovren knew that the photograph constituted child pornography.

In connection with his guilty plea, Ovren also agreed that the girl depicted in the picture is part of a series of child pornography pictures bearing the "Helen" name. He stipulated that the child in the "Helen" picture is real and was a "minor" when the picture was taken.

The investigation was conducted by the Federal Bureau of Investigation. Assistant United States Attorney Michael Gill prosecuted the case for the United States.

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