



# Department of Justice

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
NOVEMBER 30, 2006  
WWW.USDOJ.GOV/USAO/WIW

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## EAU CLAIRE MAN SENTENCED FOR DISTRIBUTION OF CHILD PORNOGRAPHY

Madison, Wisconsin – Erik C. Peterson, United States Attorney for the Western District of Wisconsin, announced that Jody W. Lowe, 41, of Eau Claire, Wisconsin, was sentenced today by U.S. District Judge Barbara B. Crabb to 12 years in prison without parole for distributing child pornography. In addition, Lowe received 20 years of federal supervision following his prison sentence. Lowe pleaded guilty to this charge on September 14, 2006.

Lowe's lengthy sentence was based in part on his distribution of child pornography, the large number of images that he possessed, the young age of some of the children being assaulted in those images, as well as the violent nature of some of the images. The evidence showed that Lowe also corresponded via email for over a year with an adult male in the State of Washington who was molesting his son and discussing that abuse with Lowe. Judge Crabb observed that Lowe's encouragement of the abuse of that child made Lowe a danger himself.

This case was brought as part of Project Safe Childhood. In February 2006, Attorney General Alberto R. Gonzales launched 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 [www.projectsafechildhood.gov/](http://www.projectsafechildhood.gov/).

The charges against Lowe were the result of an investigation conducted by the Wisconsin Department of Justice, Division of Criminal Investigation - Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force, the Eau Claire Police Department, and the Seattle Police Department. The prosecution of the case has been handled by Assistant U.S. Attorney Laura Przybylinski Finn.

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