



# NEWS RELEASE

OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY  
WESTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## PROJECT SAFE CHILDHOOD

### **TULSA MAN INDICTED FOR ATTEMPTING TO ENTICE A MINOR FOR SEX, CROSSING STATE LINES FOR ILLICIT SEX**

**SPRINGFIELD, Mo.** – Matt J. Whitworth, Acting United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, announced that a Tulsa, Okla., man was indicted by a federal grand jury today for attempting to entice a minor to engage in illicit sex and for traveling across state lines to engage in illicit sex.

**Robert Dean Graef**, 29, of Tulsa, was charged in a two-count indictment returned by a federal grand jury in Springfield.

Today's indictment alleges that, from April 13 to April 17, 2009, **Graef** used the Internet to attempt to entice a minor to engage in illicit sexual activity. The federal indictment also charges **Graef** with traveling across state lines to Jasper County, Mo., on April 17, 2009, for the purpose of attempting to engage in illicit sexual conduct.

The indictment also contains a forfeiture allegation, which would require **Graef** to forfeit to the government any property used to commit the alleged offenses, including a Glock .40-caliber handgun with laser sight, magazine and .40-caliber ammunition, two Glock magazines with 13 rounds of .40-caliber ammunition, 50 rounds of .45-caliber ammunition and a 2000 Chrysler Sebring convertible.

Whitworth cautioned that the charges contained in this indictment are simply accusations, and not evidence of guilt. Evidence supporting the charges must be presented to a federal trial jury, whose duty is to determine guilt or innocence.

This case is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Randall D. Eggert. It was

investigated by U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement, the Jasper County, Mo., Sheriff's Department, the Oklahoma Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force, the Tulsa, Okla., Police Department and the Stillwater, Okla., Police Department.

**Project Safe Childhood**

This case was brought as part of Project Safe Childhood, a nationwide initiative to combat the growing epidemic of child sexual exploitation and abuse launched in May 2006 by the Department of Justice. Led by United States Attorneys' Offices and the Criminal Division's Child Exploitation and Obscenity Section (CEOS), 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 to identify and rescue victims. For more information about Project Safe Childhood, please visit [www.projectsafechildhood.gov](http://www.projectsafechildhood.gov).

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This news release, as well as additional information about the office of the United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, is available on-line at

[www.usdoj.gov/usao/mow/index.html](http://www.usdoj.gov/usao/mow/index.html)