



PRESS RELEASE

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**MESILLA PARK, N.M., MAN ARRESTED ON FEDERAL
CHILD PORNOGRAPHY CHARGE**

ALBUQUERQUE – Anthony Black, 28, of Mesilla Park, N.M., has been charged with distribution of child pornography, announced U.S. Attorney Kenneth J. Gonzales and Acting Special Agent in Charge Dennis A. Ulrich, II, Homeland Security Investigations.

Black, who was arrested without incident yesterday, made his initial appearance in federal court in Las Cruces this morning. He is temporarily detained pending a preliminary hearing and a detention hearing scheduled for November 19, 2012.

Black is charged in a criminal complaint that alleges that he distributed child pornography in Doña Ana County, N.M., in April 2012. According to the complaint, on Nov. 14, 2012, law enforcement officers obtained a federal search warrant for the residence in which Black was living. The warrant was obtained after an investigation revealed that an IP address subscribed to that residence allegedly was being used to distribute child pornography. When the officers executed the search warrant on Thursday, they seized a laptop computer that was allegedly used to share child pornography in April and October 2012.

If convicted of the offense charged in the complaint, Black faces a term of imprisonment of not less than five years and not more than 20 years.

The case was investigated by Homeland Security Investigations, the Las Cruces Police Department, the New Mexico Attorney General's Office, the New Mexico State Police and the New Mexico Internet Crimes Against Children (ICAC) Task Force and is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorneys Ravi Sinha and Marisa A. Lizarraga of the U.S. Attorney's Las Cruces Branch Office.

The case was brought as part of Project Safe Childhood, a nationwide initiative launched in May 2006 by the Department of Justice (DOJ) to combat the growing epidemic of child sexual exploitation and abuse. Led by United States Attorneys' Offices and DOJ's Criminal Division's Child Exploitation and Obscenity Section, 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.justice.gov/psc/.

The case also received support from the New Mexico ICAC Task Force, whose mission is to locate, track, and capture Internet child sexual predators and Internet child pornographers in New Mexico. There are 64 federal, state and local law enforcement agencies associated with the New Mexico ICAC Task Force, which is funded by a grant administered by the New Mexico Attorney General's Office. Anyone with information relating to suspected child predators and suspected child abuse is encouraged to contact federal or local law enforcement.

Charges in indictments and criminal complaints are only accusations. All criminal defendants are presumed innocent unless proven guilty beyond a reasonable doubt.

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