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**FORMER DERIDDER, LA RESIDENT SENTENCED IN FEDERAL
COURT FOR CHILD PORNOGRAPHY CHARGES**

Lake Charles, La.: United States Attorney Stephanie A. Finley announced today that Michael Bullock, 50, of Odessa, TX, and formerly of DeRidder, La., was sentenced yesterday to serve nine years in federal prison, for receiving child pornography. The sentence was handed down by U.S. District Judge Patricia Minaldi in federal court in Lake Charles, La. In addition to the prison term, the judge also sentenced Bullock to 10 years supervised release, following confinement.

Bullock pleaded guilty in February of 2012, to receiving child pornography. Documents filed with the court prior to the sentencing revealed that during an undercover investigation from June of 2011 through August of 2011, agents were able to identify Bullock as a collector of child pornography. He utilized peer to peer software to possess, receive and distribute child pornography online. During the execution of the search warrant at Bullock's DeRidder residence, the defendant admitted to agents that he had downloaded child pornography from the internet and that the child pornography could be found on jump-drives located in a drawer in his bedroom. As a result of the search warrant, two computers and three jump-drives were seized, and approximately 106 videos of child pornography and approximately 645 images of child pornography were found on these devices.

United States Attorney Stephanie A. Finley stated, "Here's the bottom line. Anyone who distributes, downloads or collects child pornography will face serious consequences. They should understand that this office, along with our federal, state and local partners, is committed to doing everything we can to protect children. We will prosecute these cases to the full extent of the law and will ask for sentences that reflect these horrendous criminal acts."

The case was investigated by Homeland Security Investigations (HSI), Louisiana State Attorney General's Office and the Beauregard Sheriff's Office. The case was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney J. Collin Sims.

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 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.

ICE encourages the public to report suspected child predators and any suspicious activity through its toll-free hotline at 1-866-DHS-2ICE. This hotline is staffed around the clock by investigators.

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