

Department of Justice

United States Attorney William J. Hochul, Jr.
Western District of New York

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
JANUARY 24, 2012
www.usdoj.gov/usao/nyw

CONTACT: BARBARA BURNS
PHONE: (716) 843-5817
FAX: (716) 551-3051

BLOOMFIELD MAN SENTENCED FOR POSSESSION OF CHILD PORNOGRAPHY

ROCHESTER, N.Y.-- U.S. Attorney William J. Hochul, Jr. announced today that Thomas Burlingame, 32, of Bloomfield, N.Y., who was convicted of possession of child pornography, was sentenced to four years in prison and 15 years supervised release by U.S. District Judge David G. Larimer.

Assistant U.S. Attorney John J. Field, who handled the case, stated that Burlingame used his computer to access and distribute child pornography over the internet for approximately seven years. In February 2011, law enforcement executed a search warrant and seized a computer from the defendant's home. A forensic analysis revealed graphic images, some involving victims as young as eight years old.

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.projectsafefchildhood.gov.

The plea is the result of a investigation by Special Agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, under the direction of Christopher M. Piehota, Special Agent in Charge.

####