

# Department of Justice

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

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JULY 31, 2012  
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## **NEWARK MAN PLEADS GUILTY TO RECEIVING AND POSSESSING CHILD PORNOGRAPHY**

ROCHESTER, N.Y.--U.S. Attorney William J. Hochul, Jr. announced today that Anthony Howe, Sr., 48, of Newark, N.Y., pleaded guilty to receipt and possession of child pornography before U.S. District Court Judge David G. Larimer. Due to the defendant's prior convictions, both charges are subject to enhanced penalties at sentencing. Receipt of child pornography with a prior conviction is punishable by a mandatory minimum 15 years in prison and a maximum sentence of 40 years, a fine of up to \$250,000, and supervised release for life. Possession of child pornography with a prior conviction is punishable by a mandatory minimum sentence of 10 years in prison and a maximum sentence of 20 years, a fine of up to \$250,000, and supervised release for life.

Assistant U.S. Attorney Craig R. Gestring, who is handling the case, stated that Howe was observed downloading files with names which suggested sexual acts with eight and nine year old children. Newark Police began an investigation, seized a laptop computer, and notified the Department of Homeland Security. Subsequent investigation and examination uncovered more than 150 sexually explicit photos and movies of children. In the course of the investigation, Special Agents also learned that the defendant had three prior convictions for sexual conduct involving a 10 year old, a five year old, and an eight year 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](http://www.projectsafefchildhood.gov).

The plea was the culmination of an investigation on the part of Special Agents of Immigration and Customs Enforcement, Homeland Security Investigations, under the direction of Special Agent In Charge James C. Spero, and Officers of the Newark Police Department, under the direction of Chief David L. Christler

Sentencing is scheduled for 10:00 am on October 24, 2012 before Judge Larimer.

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