

Department of Justice

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HORNELL MAN SENTENCED IN CHILD PORNOGRAPHY CASE

ROCHESTER, N.Y.-- U.S. Attorney William J. Hochul, Jr. announced today that Norman Edwin Mehlenbacher, 51, of Hornell, N.Y., who was convicted of possessing child pornography, was sentenced to five years in prison and 15 years supervised release by U.S. District Judge David G. Larimer.

Assistant U.S. Attorney Marisa J. Miller, who handled the case, stated that an undercover investigation uncovered the defendant trading images of child pornography over the internet. Mehlenbacher was found with more than 600 images of child pornography on his computers. Some of the images depicted children under the age of 12 and acts of violence against children

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.

The sentencing is the culmination of an investigation on the part of Immigrations and Customs Enforcement, Homeland Security Investigations, under the direction of Special Agent In Charge James C. Spero.

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