

Department of Justice

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Western District of New York

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MAN PLEADS GUILTY TO CHILD PORNOGRAPHY

ROCHESTER, N.Y.-- U.S. Attorney William J. Hochul, Jr. announced today that Timothy Nihill, 47, of Rochester, NY, pleaded guilty before U.S. District Judge Charles J. Siragusa to knowingly possessing child pornography. The charge carries a maximum penalty of 10 years in prison, a fine of \$250,000 or both.

Assistant U.S. Attorney Marisa J. Miller, who is handling the case, stated that more than 600 images of child pornography were found on computers and other digital media that he owned. The child pornography included images of prepubescent children under the age of 12 and depictions 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 plea is the culmination of an investigation on the part of Special Agents of Immigrations and Customs Enforcement, Homeland Security Investigations, under the direction of Special Agent In Charge Lev Kubiak.

Sentencing is scheduled for Oct. 4th, at 2:15 p.m. EST, in Rochester, N.Y., before Judge Siragusa.

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