

Department of Justice

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MAN CHARGED WITH DISTRIBUTION AND RECEIPT OF CHILD PORNOGRAPHY, AND OBSTRUCTION OF JUSTICE

BUFFALO, N.Y.-- A federal grand jury in Buffalo has returned an eight-count Indictment charging Chad Salvatore, 38, of Alden, NY, with distribution and receipt of child pornography, and obstruction of justice, announced U.S. Attorney William J. Hochul, Jr., of the Western District of New York. The Indictment also contains a forfeiture allegation, in which the government is moving to forfeit the defendant's residence, located at 12405 Clinton Street, Alden, NY. Due to the defendant's prior conviction under the New York Penal Law for Sodomy in the 1st Degree, the maximum penalty for the distribution and receipt of child pornography charges is a mandatory minimum term of imprisonment of 15 years, and a maximum sentence of 40 years imprisonment, per charge. The obstruction of justice charge carries a maximum penalty of 20 years imprisonment and/or a fine of \$250,000.

Assistant U.S. Attorney Aaron J. Mango stated that the first five counts of the Indictment charge the defendant with distributing child pornography on five separate occasions between December 2, 2010 and December 15, 2010. The next two counts of the Indictment charge the defendant with receipt of child pornography between June 1, 2010 and July 11, 2010. Finally, the Indictment charges the defendant with obstruction of justice for his intentional destruction of a digital media storage device, believed to have contained child pornography. Due to the defendant's use of his residence to commit these crimes, the government has moved to forfeit the defendant's interest in his residence. The defendant has been in custody since his arrest in December of 2010, and an arraignment on the Indictment will be scheduled for next week before Magistrate Judge Jeremiah J. McCarthy.

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.projectsafchildhood.gov.

The arraignment was the culmination of an investigation on the part of Special Agents of the Department of Homeland Security - Homeland Security Investigations, under the direction of James C. Spero, Special Agent in Charge. The evidence was presented to the Grand Jury by Assistant U.S. Attorney Aaron J. Mango, who will handle the trial of the case.

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