

Department of Justice

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

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
DECEMBER 21, 2011
www.usdoj.gov/usao/nyw

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

LONGTIME FUGITIVE AND FORMER SCHOOL TEACHER **SENTENCED ON CHILD PORNOGRAPHY CHARGES**

BUFFALO, N.Y.-- U.S. Attorney William J. Hochul, Jr. announced today that Yusef Alhakk a/k/a Joseph Daniels, 67, of Buffalo, N.Y., who was convicted of receipt of child pornography, was sentenced to 120 months in prison and five years supervised release by U.S. District Judge Richard J. Arcara.

According to Assistant U.S. Attorney Marie P. Grisanti, who handled the case, Alhakk was teaching at Bennett High School when he was arrested in 2005 on child pornography charges. Several months after his arrest, the defendant fled the United States and remained a fugitive for over five years. Alhakk was apprehended in December 2010 as he attempted to re-enter the United States. The defendant received images of child pornography on his home computer. Alhakk had more than 600 images of child pornography, some depicting prepubescent children less than 12 years of age.

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 sentencing is the culmination of an investigation on the part of Special Agents of the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement, under the direction of James C. Spero, Special Agent In Charge. The United States Marshals Service, under the direction of Charles Salina assisted in the apprehension of the defendant.

###