

U.S. Department of Justice

United States Attorney District of Maine

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Augusta Man Pleads Guilty to Transportation and Possession of Child Pornography

Portland, Maine: United States Attorney Paula D. Silsby announced that **Victor Hanson**, 65, of Augusta, Maine, pled guilty on February 21 in U.S. District Court in Portland to one count of Transportation of Child Pornography and one count of Possession of Child Pornography.

According to court records, in the fall of 2003, Hanson made an image of child pornography available for sharing over the internet by users of "peer-to-peer" file-sharing software. The image was downloaded by an undercover law enforcement officer in Wyoming. A search warrant executed at Hanson's residence in the spring of 2004 yielded a computer and compact disks that contained numerous child pornography images and videos, many of which were available for sharing over the internet via file-sharing software.

Hanson faces a minimum mandatory sentence of 5 years, and a maximum possible sentence of 20 years imprisonment, a \$250,000 fine, or both, on the transportation count. Hanson faces a maximum possible sentence of 10 years imprisonment, a \$250,000 fine, or both, on the possession count.

United States Attorney Silsby praised the investigation conducted by the Maine Computer Crimes Task Force and the Wyoming Division of Criminal Investigation.