



Department of Justice

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JASPER MAN CHARGED WITH DISTRIBUTION OF SEXUALLY EXPLICIT MATERIAL INVOLVING MINORS

PRESS RELEASE

Susan W. Brooks, United States Attorney for the Southern District of Indiana, announced that MICHAEL B. MUNCY, 41, of Jasper, Indiana, was indicted by a federal grand jury sitting in Indianapolis for distribution of sexually explicit material involving minors, receipt of sexually explicit material involving minors, and possession of sexually explicit material involving minors following an investigation by the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the Jasper, Indiana Police Department and the Indiana State Police.

The three count indictment alleges that between April 16, 2007, and May 22, 2007, MUNCY distributed, received, and possessed sexually explicit material involving minors using a computer he operated from his residence in Jasper, Indiana. The Indictment names twenty-three videos containing sexually explicit material involving minors that MUNCY allegedly downloaded to his computer using file sharing software. The Indictment also alleges that Muncy sent sexually explicit material involving minors to an undercover police officer in New Hampshire.

This case was brought as a part of Project Safe Childhood. In February 2006, Attorney General Alberto R. Gonzales launched Project Safe Childhood, a nationwide initiative designed to protect children from online exploitation and abuse. Led by the United States Attorneys Offices, Project Safe Childhood uses federal, state and local resources to better locate, apprehend, and prosecute individuals who exploit children via the Internet, as well as identify and rescue victims. For more information about Project Safe Childhood, please see www.projectsafchildhood.gov/.

According to Assistant U. S. Attorney Todd S. Shellenbarger, who is prosecuting the case for the government, MUNCY faces a maximum possible prison sentence of 20 years and a maximum possible fine of \$250,000. An initial hearing on the indictment was held before a U.S. Magistrate Judge in Evansville this morning.

The indictment is an allegation only, and the defendant is presumed innocent unless and until proven guilty at trial or by guilty plea.

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