



Department of Justice

United States Attorney Robert E. O'Neill
Middle District of Florida

Tampa Orlando Jacksonville Fort Myers Ocala
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Wednesday, April 16, 2008
<http://www.usdoj.gov/usao/flm/pr>

CONTACT: STEVE COLE
PHONE: (813) 274-6136
FAX: (813) 274-6300

**FORMER DCF SPOKESMAN INDICTED ON FEDERAL
CHARGES OF PRODUCTION OF CHILD PORNOGRAPHY**

Tampa, FL - U.S. Attorney Robert E. O'Neill announced today the indictment of Albert Andre Zimmerman, age 41, formerly of Tallahassee and Lakeland, now incarcerated in Citrus County, on charges of production of child pornography. Zimmerman was arrested on a federal complaint on February 11, 2008. If convicted, he faces a mandatory minimum sentence of 15 years of imprisonment and up to thirty years' imprisonment.

_____The indictment alleges that from October 2004, until December, 2007, in Hillsborough and Orange Counties, Zimmerman knowingly employed, used, persuaded, induced, enticed and coerced a minor, to engage in sexually explicit conduct for the purpose of producing a visual depiction of such conduct.

According to the complaint filed in February, Zimmerman allegedly took sexually explicit photographs and videos of two minor juvenile males. The alleged incidents took place in 2006 and 2007. Both of the juveniles were paid in cash or money orders by Zimmerman for the pictures. Zimmerman sent emails to one victim and discussed the production of child pornography, how the photographs would be brokered in Germany, and payment for photographs.

_____ This case was investigated by U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE), Florida Attorney General Bill McCollum's CyberCrime Unit and the Tampa Police Department. It is being prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Colleen Murphy-Davis.

This case is part of Project Safe Childhood. In February 2006, the Department of Justice created Project Safe Childhood, a national initiative designed to protect children from online exploitation and abuse. Led by the United States Attorneys Offices, 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 identify and rescue victims. For more information on Project Safe Childhood, please visit www.projectsafechildhood.gov.

An Indictment is merely a formal charge that a defendant has committed a violation of the federal criminal laws, and every defendant is presumed innocent unless, and until, proven guilty.