



# Department of Justice

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## **ST. AUGUSTINE MAN PLEADS GUILTY TO FEDERAL CHARGES OF FAILURE TO REGISTER AS A SEX OFFENDER**

Jacksonville, FL - Yesterday in U.S. District Court in Jacksonville, Michael Anthony Litturi, age 46, of St. Augustine pled guilty to charges of failure to register as a sex offender after traveling in interstate commerce from Connecticut to Florida (Count One), and failure to register as a sex offender within ten days of establishing a residence in Florida (Count Two). For Count One, Litturi faces a maximum penalty of up to 10 years' imprisonment, \$250,000 in fines, and a term of supervised release of not less than 5 years up to life. On Count Two, Litturi faces a maximum penalty of a term of imprisonment of up to 1 year, \$100,000 in fines, and a term of supervised release of up to 1 year. A sentencing date has not yet been set.

According to court documents, Litturi, who is a registered sex offender in Connecticut, moved to and established residence in Florida in 2006 without notifying the appropriate Connecticut authorities. From July 27, 2006 through August 9, 2007, Litturi knowingly and unlawfully failed to register as a sex offender in the state of Florida. Litturi was arrested on these charges on October 1, 2007 in St. Augustine, and has been in custody since that date.

This is the first federal “Failure to Register” case prosecuted in the Jacksonville Division of the Middle District of Florida under Title 18, United States Code, Section 2250, which is part of the Adam Walsh Child Protection and Safety Act of 2006. The case was investigated by the United States Marshal Service and the St. Johns County Sheriff’s Office, and is being prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney D. Rodney Brown.

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](http://www.projectsafechildhood.gov).