



**U.S. Department of Justice**

**Stephen J. Murphy  
United States Attorney  
Eastern District of Michigan**

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**For Immediate Release:**

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May 21, 2008

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**EVENT: Sentenced**

**Defendant: Bruce Edwards**

**MINNESOTA MAN SENTENCED TO 150 MONTHS FOR  
TRAVELING FOR SEX WITH A MINOR AND DISTRIBUTING  
CHILD PORNOGRAPHY**

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Stephen J. Murphy, United States Attorney for the Eastern District of Michigan, announced that Bruce Edwards 51, of Prior Lake, Minnesota was sentenced in United States District Court, Detroit, for his conviction of Travel with Intent to Engage in Illicit Sexual Conduct with a Minor and Distribution of Child Pornography.

Edwards was sentenced by the Honorable John Corbett O'Meara to 150 months in prison followed by 3 years of supervised release.

The following facts were disclosed to the court at the time of the guilty plea and during sentencing:

Between May 31 and June 14, 2007, Defendant Edwards engaged in a series of online conversations with an undercover Secret Service agent assigned to the Michigan Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force (ICAC). Edwards was arranging travel to Michigan to assist the undercover agent in the photographing of an adult having sex with the fictitious 10-

year-old girl. Edwards indicated a desire to engage in sex with the child as well. During their on-line discussions Edwards sent numerous images of child pornography to the agent, some of which he claimed to have taken himself. This claim was later proven to be untrue.

Edwards traveled to the Detroit area to meet with the man on June 16, 2007. Upon his arrival, Edwards was arrested by authorities from the Michigan ICAC. At the time of his arrest, Edwards was in possession of two cameras, Viagra, handcuffs and lubricant.

United States Attorney Murphy said, "Today's sentence of 12 ½ years in prison provides a strong deterrent to any who would seek to assist child molesters in recording their acts of child sexual abuse on film or digital recordings. The child porn maker and the abuser need to be on notice their crimes will not be tolerated and will in fact result in lengthy prison sentences – which is one of the key goals of our district's Project Safe Childhood program."

United States Attorney Murphy praised the work of special agents of the United States Secret Service who have dedicated the time and skill necessary to work undercover to reveal these predators. The Michigan ICAC, Murphy said, consistently demonstrates professionalism and dedication in their aggressive and thorough investigation of these cases.

This case was brought as part of US Attorney Murphy's Child Protection Initiative and the Project Safe Childhood program. In February 2006, the Department of Justice created Project Safe Childhood, a nationwide initiative designed to protect children from online exploitation and abuse. Led by responsible United States Attorneys like Murphy, 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 about Project Safe Childhood, please visit [www.projectsafechildhood.gov](http://www.projectsafechildhood.gov).

Assistant United States Attorney John O'Brien, prosecuted the case for the United States.