



U.S. Department of Justice

**Terrence Berg
United States Attorney
Eastern District of Michigan**

*Suite 2001
211 West Fort Street
Detroit, Michigan 48226-3277*

For Immediate Release:

Contact: Gina Balaya (313) 226-9758

Aug 26, 2008

EVENT: Convicted

Defendant: James Roney, III

**OHIO MAN SENTENCED FOR TRAFFICKING IN CHILDREN
AND CONSPIRACY**

An Ohio man convicted on charges of sexual exploitation of children and criminal conspiracy was sentenced today to 151 months' in prison, announced Acting United States Attorney Terrence Berg. Mr. Berg was joined in the announcement by Andrew G. Arena, Special Agent in Charge, Federal Bureau of Investigation.

James Roney, III, 33, of Cleveland, Ohio, who pleaded guilty to criminal conspiracy and the sexual trafficking in children in October, 2007 was sentenced before United States District Judge Patrick J. Duggan.

"The sexual exploitation of minors is a horrific crime whenever it occurs, but especially when it involves forced prostitution -- as it did in this case," said Acting United States Attorney Terrence Berg. "Reducing crimes of human trafficking is a key goal of my office and today's guilty plea evidences our unceasing effort to stop this pernicious criminal activity."

During the plea hearing, Roney admitted that in June, 2007, he and co-defendant Donald Wayne Flint brought two victims, a 15-year-old girl and an adult woman from Cleveland, Ohio to Detroit for the purpose of making money through prostitution and striptease dancing, and for the purpose of having sex with them. While in Detroit, defendant Roney instructed the victims that they would have to engage in commercial sexual acts for money,

including sexual intercourse and oral sex. Roney further admitted to physically and sexually assaulting the minor victim.

The investigation of this case has been conducted by the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the Michigan State Police and the Wayne County Sheriff's Department. The case has been prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Saima Mohsin.