



# Department of Justice

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## **JACKSONVILLE MAN PLEADS GUILTY IN FEDERAL COURT TO RECEIPT OF CHILD PORNOGRAPHY**

Jacksonville, FL - U.S. Attorney Robert E. O'Neill, James Casey, Special Agent in Charge of the Jacksonville Division of the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) , and Florida Attorney General Bill McCollum, today announced that Eric Shawn Garcia pled guilty in U.S. District Court to a charge of receipt of child pornography. Garcia, age 34, was arrested at his Jacksonville residence on December 3, 2007 after being indicted by a federal grand jury. At sentencing, Garcia will face a minimum penalty of five years' imprisonment and a maximum penalty of up to 20 years' imprisonment and a \$250,000 fine.

According to court documents, Garcia used a credit card to purchase a membership in a child pornography website, then downloaded images and videos of child pornography over the Internet to his computer. A subsequent forensic analysis of his computer conducted by the FBI revealed over 200 images and approximately 300 videos depicting child pornography.

The case was investigated by the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the Florida Attorney General's Child Predator CyberCrime Unit. Assistant United States Attorney D. Rodney Brown is handling the prosecution of this case.

“This case is an excellent indication of the success which can be achieved by cooperative efforts to combat internet child predators,” said Florida Attorney General Bill McCollum.

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 Attorney's 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).

The Florida Attorney General's Child Predator CyberCrime Unit is a member of the North Florida Internet Crimes Against Children (ICAC) Task Force, a federally funded program working nationwide to educate and support law enforcement to stop these crimes, and the FBI Cyber Taskforce in Jacksonville.