



# Department of Justice

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**JACKSONVILLE BEACH MAN PLEADS GUILTY TO  
FEDERAL CHARGE OF INTERSTATE TRANSPORTATION OF CHILD  
PORNOGRAPHY AND AGREES TO FORFEITURE OF HIS RESIDENCE**

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, and Florida Attorney General Bill McCollum, announced that a Jacksonville Beach man pleaded guilty in U.S. District Court today in Jacksonville to interstate transportation of child pornography. Frank Carter Butcher, age 61, was arrested in Jacksonville Beach on May 22, 2008, and has been in federal custody since that time.

According to court documents, during late 2007, agents with the Federal Bureau of Investigation ("FBI") office in New York City received a citizen complaint regarding child pornography on the Internet. Subsequently, an FBI agent, using an undercover computer linked to the Internet, logged onto the identified website and entered into a particular news group site. Posted on this news group site were two video files posted by a user who identified himself with a screen name and e-mail address. This user was subsequently identified as Frank Carter Butcher. Both of these posted videos depicted child pornography. Further investigation revealed that the Internet connection used to post these videos was associated with a residence located at 1560 Evans Drive South, Jacksonville Beach, Florida 32250.

According to court documents, FBI agents and investigators with the Florida

Attorney General's Office ("AGO") executed a federal search warrant at the residence located at 1560 Evans Drive South in Jacksonville Beach. During the search of Butcher's residence, agents seized five computers (each with an internal hard disk drive), one external hard disk drive, 40 floppy disks, 60 DVDs and compact disks, two zip disks, and three magnetic tape storage cartridges. Forensic analysis of this media revealed at least 600 videos depicting child pornography. Several of these videos portrayed sadistic conduct involving children. The two videos which had been posted by Butcher at the particular news group site were found in several locations throughout his computer media. The analysis also showed that Butcher had sent videos of child pornography to an individual in another state.

On May 22, 2008, Butcher was arrested. After being advised of his constitutional rights, Butcher told the agents, among other things, that he visited the particular news group site and downloaded videos from the site. He stated that he also frequented one or two other sites where he also obtained videos of child pornography.

Butcher faces a maximum penalty of not less than 5 years and up to 20 years' imprisonment, a \$250,000 fine and a term of supervised release of not less than five years and up to life. In addition, the plea agreement requires the forfeiture of Butcher's residence in Jacksonville Beach, as well as his abandonment of six computer hard disk drives and the other computer media seized by the FBI.

The case was investigated by the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the Child Predator CyberCrime Unit of the State of Florida Attorney General's Office. Assistant United States Attorney D. Rodney Brown is handling the prosecution of this case. A sentencing date for Butcher has not yet been set.

This case is part of Project Safe Childhood. In February 2006, Attorney General Alberto R. Gonzales 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).

Attorney General Bill McCollum'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. The unit has made numerous arrests since October 2005 and has referred several cases to be prosecuted by federal authorities. More information on the Florida Attorney General's CyberCrime initiative is available at <http://www.myfloridalegal.com>.