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**BALTIMORE MAN SENTENCED TO 15 YEARS FOR
TRANSMITTING CHILD PORN AND AIDING AND ABETTING**

Baltimore, Maryland – Allen F. Loucks, United States Attorney for the District of Maryland announces that today U.S. District Court Judge Catherine C. Blake sentenced Joseph Ray McKenzie, age 22, of Baltimore, Maryland to 15 years in prison followed by 20 years of supervised release in connection with his guilty plea entered on February 11, 2005 to transmitting child porn, and aiding and abetting.

According to a statement of facts presented to the court, in January 2004 McKenzie operated a file-server from his home computer. File servers, sometimes called "F-Serves," consist of software that when loaded into a home computer can give other persons access, in this case via the Internet, to files on the hard drive of one's computer. On January 21 and 29, 2004, Federal Bureau of Investigation undercover agents signed onto the Internet, went into a channel on Internet Relay Chat ("IRC") and gained access to the defendant's f-serve. The agents saw on the defendant's hard drive a collection of image files that had sexually suggestive file names. The agents downloaded and opened several files from the defendant's computer, and determined that they consisted of visual depictions, specifically computer files, the production of which involved the use of minors engaging

in sexually explicit conduct.

On February 6, 2004, FBI agents and officers of the Baltimore County Police executed a search warrant at the defendant's residence and seized several computers as well as a receipt in the name of "Joe Johnson," the name the defendant had been using to connect his F-serve to the Internet. The defendant was not home at the time because he had made a date with an FBI undercover agent, and was placed under arrest earlier that day when he arrived to meet her at a gas station in Baltimore. This case was investigated by the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the Baltimore County Police Department, and prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Andrew Norman.