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**OCTOBER 4, 2005
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CHILD PORN DISTRIBUTOR SENTENCED TO 180 MONTHS

BALTIMORE Maryland - United States Attorney for the District of Maryland Rod J. Rosenstein announces that today U.S. District Court Judge William D. Quarles, Jr. sentenced Frank Stephen Thodos, age 42, of North East, Maryland to 180 months in prison followed by supervised release for life, for distribution of child pornography.

According to the statement of facts presented to the court, Thodos advertised child pornography over the Internet from his home computer from September to November 2004. His computer contained at least 150 images of children under the age of 12, some of who were depicted in sadistic or masochistic conduct. Through a file share program, individuals were able to upload child pornography to Thodos' computer and download child pornography from his computer. Thodos offered his child pornography collection to others in order to receive additional child pornography. When his residence was searched on November 16, 2004, Thodos admitted to running the file share program containing child pornography and transmitting the images of child pornography through the Internet.

United States Attorney Rod J. Rosenstein thanked the Federal Bureau of Investigation for their investigative work. Mr. Rosenstein commended Assistant United States Attorney Bonnie S. Greenberg who prosecuted the case.