



**United States Attorney's Office District of
Connecticut
Press Release**

**September 26, 2008, EAST HARTFORD MAN WHO PIRATED MOVIES AND
TELEVISION SHOWS AND SOLD THEM ON EBAY IS
SENTENCED TO PRISON**

Nora R. Dannehy, Acting United States Attorney for the District of Connecticut, announced that STEVEN T. SINGARELLA, 53, of Raymond Street, East Hartford, was sentenced today by United States District Judge Janet C. Hall in Bridgeport to 24 months of imprisonment, followed by two years of supervised release, for illegally reproducing movies and television shows and then selling the copies over the Internet. Judge Hall also ordered SINGARELLA to pay a fine in the amount of \$2000. On July 9, 2008, SINGARELLA pleaded guilty to one count of criminal copyright infringement.

According to documents filed with the Court and statements made in court, between August 2004 and August 2006, using recordable blank DVD discs and/or VHS video cassettes in conjunction with other computer and audio-visual electronic equipment, SINGARELLA illegally copied at least 55 copyrighted movies and television shows, and then advertised and sold the pirated works on eBay.com. SINGARELLA required payment by check or money order and had payments mailed to addresses in East Hartford. SINGARELLA also caused the "feedback" posted on eBay to be hidden, effectively concealing comments from past purchasers indicating the items were pirated or "burned" copies.

SINGARELLA received a total of approximately \$101,162 from the sale of approximately 8000 pirated works during the two-year period.

This case was investigated by the Federal Bureau of Investigation and was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Anastasia Enos King.

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