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DERIDDER, LA MAN SENTENCED TO 40 YEARS FOR POSSESSION AND PRODUCTION OF CHILD PORNOGRAPHY

Man will be under court supervision for life

Lake Charles, Louisiana . . . United States Attorney Donald W. Washington announced that **BILLY SLAYDON**, age 29, of DeRidder, Louisiana, was sentenced today in United States District Court for possession and production of child pornography. U.S. District Judge Patricia Minaldi sentenced SLAYDON to 10 years in prison for the possession of child pornography and 30 years in prison for the production of child pornography to run consecutively, followed by supervised release for the remainder of his life. The Court ordered that the federal sentence of 40 years was to run consecutively with any sentence the defendant received in State Court related to the sexual abuse of children.

SLAYDON was indicted in June 2008 and pled guilty on October 23, 2008 to one count of possession of child pornography and one count of production of child pornography.

Members of local law enforcement in DeRidder, Louisiana, became involved in the case when a relative of SLAYDON's found child pornography on SLAYDON's computer including images of SLAYDON sexually exploiting two children from the DeRidder area.

A search warrant was executed at SLAYDON's residence and a CD was found containing child pornography that the defendant downloaded from the internet. Also found on the defendant's computer were images that SLAYDON produced with a digital Kodak camera of himself sexually molesting a nine year old boy. Upon further investigation, it was discovered that SLAYDON had taken more images of himself molesting another minor male. SLAYDON can be identified in these images by a tattoo that is located on his abdomen.

United States District Judge Minaldi, in giving SLAYDON the statutory maximum sentence, stated that the defendant sadistically abused the young boys leaving them permanently scarred. She stated that this was one of the most offensive cases in which she had ever been involved.

U. S. Attorney Donald Washington stated: "This office is completely dedicated to using the full force of federal law to bring to justice those who sexually exploit our children. The blunt force of child exploitation must be met by vigorous investigations and prosecutions seeking maximum punishment."

Special Agent in Charge of Immigration & Customs Enforcement Agency (ICE) Office of Investigations in New Orleans Michael A. Holt, stated: "All children have an absolute right to grow up free from fear of sexual exploitation. ICE relentlessly pursues predators who sexually abuse children, whether that abuse is physical in nature or if it's accomplished by exploiting their images.

The sentencing of this man sends a strong message that ICE will not tolerate such despicable crimes. Our agents will continue to police cyber space to investigate and bring to justice those individuals who exploit the most vulnerable segment of our society - our children.”

Sentencing in federal court is determined by the discretion of federal judges and the governing statute. Parole has been abolished in the federal system.

This case was investigated by the DeRidder Sheriff’s Office and Immigration & Customs Enforcement Agency (ICE), Lake Charles Division. The case was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney John Luke Walker.

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